

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIII.]

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BIRTHS.

At Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, on the 15th March, the wife of WALLACE COOK, of a son.

On the 16th March, 1901, at 36, Nanking Road, Shanghai, the wife of J. J. JUDAH, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 15th March, by the Rev. J. R. Hykes, D.D., at No. 2, The Bund, Shanghai, J. WARD HALL, of Shanghai, to ANNA LOUISE EUSTACE, of Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

At St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on the 22nd March, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., JEAN MUIR FOWLER, daughter of the late J. H. FOWLER, of Rangoon and Gourok, to EDWARD FALKENBERG Gros, of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On the 15th March, 1901, at 84, Rifle Range Road, Shanghai, MABELLE, the beloved wife of James H. OSBORNE, aged 35 years.

On the 19th March, 1901, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, ROBERT GIBSON, late Foreman (Carpenter) at Farnham, Boyd & Co.'s Cosmopolitan Dock, aged 28 years.

At Tan Tock Song's Hospital, Singapore, on the 20th March, JOHN CHRISTIAN NEUBRONNER, eldest son of the late James Louis NEUBRONNER, aged 39 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 22nd February arrived, per M. M. steamer *Océanien*, on the 25th March (31 days); and the English mail of the 1st March arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Sabraon*, on the 29th March (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. John Goodnow, U. S. Consul-General, returned to Shanghai on the 16th inst. by the *Nippon Maru*.

According to the New York *Tribune*, the United States has declined to protest against Russia's seizure of Manchuria.

The Treaty of Commerce between Belgium and Corea was ratified on the 12th inst. The treaty is understood to be similar in nature to those entered into with other powers.

News reached Shanghai from Peking on Monday that the Rev. J. Stonehouse, of the London Missionary Society, was reported killed by armed robbers 45 miles south-east of Peking. The body has been recovered.

A French telegram from Peking reports that the bodies of the French subjects who died during the siege of the Legations last year have been solemnly carried to the French Cemetery at Peking and there buried.

Reuter telegraphs that the United States on the 17th February expressed to China its sense of the inexpediency and even of the extreme danger of considering any private territorial or financial arrangements, at least without the full knowledge and approval of the Powers. Mr. Hay sent a copy of this memorandum to all the Powers, including Russia.

The *China Gazette* tel-gram to which the *Times* referred last week is probably the following, which is dated Tokyo, 20th March, and appears in the *China Gazette* of that date:—All the Russian warships having left Japan for Coroon waters, a formidable Japanese squadron is mobilising in Japan for immediate despatch to the coast of Corea.

A proposal is on foot to form a Chinese syndicate to work the steamship trade between the ports of Kwanchauwan, Hoihow, Pakhoi and Haiphong. At present there are trading between those ports and Hongkong the six steamers of the Marty line, three Germans, and a Douglas boat. Local traders interested in the lines stated affirm the field is too small to admit of any further innovation and regard the new scheme as somewhat utopian.

The news of the past week concerning the Manchurian Convention has been very contradictory. Our Shanghai telegram of the 25th inst. stated that the Grand Council at Hsianfu had telegraphed to the Reformers' Committee at Shanghai to the effect that the throne had despatched orders to Yang Yu, Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg, forbidding the signature of the Convention. At about the same time a Reuter's telegram gave the New York report that China had refused to sign. On Wednesday night two telegrams arrived from Shanghai, the first repeating with variations the story of Yang Yu declining to sign, and the second announced that Li Hung-chang had signed, under pressure of De Giers's threat to haul down the Chinese flag if he did not. The report about Li's signature was on Thursday stated to be "a rumour." From a German Chinese source a report was current that the Convention had been signed at St. Petersburg on the 26th inst.

Mr. Conger, U. S. Minister at Peking, has gone home on leave, sailing from Hongkong on the 28th inst., after a visit to Canton and Macao.

The United States have suggested that \$200,000,000 be fixed as a lump sum for the Chinese indemnity to the Powers, to be divided into eight equal parts.

The China Merchants' steamer *Benclutha*, which has been laid up at Shanghai for the past six weeks undergoing a thorough overhaul, arrived in harbour on Monday. We learn that the Company's steamer *Kwanglee* is undergoing repairs at Shanghai, and will be down here in a day or two. The fact of the company effecting the annual repairs to several of their steamers, coupled with the knowledge that unusual activity is being displayed on all their wharves and warehouses in Shanghai and elsewhere, tends to discredit the report which was current here last week that the company were disposing of their properties. We learn, moreover, that not a word was whispered in Shanghai shipping circles last week as to any such deal having taken place.

In the new China Blue-book just to hand some details will be found in connection with the withdrawal of Mr. M. F. A. Fraser on August 2nd from Chungking, which evoked so much comment and criticism. His leaving Chungking was in pursuance of orders from Lord Salisbury, who wired to Mr. Warren at Shanghai that naval and military authorities at Shanghai would be hampered until Europeans were withdrawn from riverine ports, and directing Her Majesty's Consul at Chungking should leave the European community. As Mr. Fraser was much blamed at the time for his action, it is only fair to him to mention these circumstances. In reporting his leaving, he mentions that Mr. William Hyslop, C.I.M., Mr. Brill, of Chicago, and Mr. Nicolson, of A. J. Little's, "refused to go in spite of all remonstrances, and chose to stay behind and affront danger with the view of helping those expected from the interior during the next few weeks." He says "the names of these gallant men deserve to be recorded."

The dispute at Tientsin between Britain and Russia has been referred to the arbitration of Count von Walderssee. A *New Press* telegram of the 16th inst. gives the following account of the dispute. The railway company wished to lay rails from the station to the riverbank, which is only fifty yards away. The intervening ground (now occupied only by debris of a few Chinese huts) is claimed as Russian territory, by right of conquest, because Russian blood was spilt there in the defence of Tientsin last June and July. The claim is denied by the other Powers, on the ground that by international agreement there was no war of conquest, and furthermore all nations alike took part in defending Tientsin, and all shed their blood, on that particular spot as well as elsewhere. The Russians took forcible steps to assert their claim, posting guards with fixed bayonets to prevent the railway work from proceeding. British guards have also been posted close alongside, to prevent any further aggression, and the opposing pickets may come into conflict at any moment. Meanwhile, the work is stopped. It is necessary to get it done as soon as possible, in order to facilitate the forwarding of supplies for Peking from steamers in the river.

RUSSIA IN NORTH CHINA.

(Daily Press, 27th March.)

The Governments of London and St. Petersburg have chosen the quickest and easiest method of settling the dispute between the Railway Company and the Russian military authorities at Tientsin. They have fixed on Count VON WALDERSEE, Commander-in-chief of the allied troops in North China, as arbitrator, and it is difficult to see how a better choice could have been made. It is true that Count VON WALDERSEE was in Germany when the events occurred which have led to Russia making so large a claim for land at Tientsin; but he is on the spot, and the evidence can all be checked with far more speed and accuracy than if the matter were to be settled in Europe. The Peking correspondent of a Shanghai contemporary, whom we quoted yesterday, gave a brief account of the point at issue at Tientsin. For convenience we reproduce his words. "The railway company," he says, "wished to lay rails from the station to the river-bank, which is only fifty yards away. The intervening ground (now occupied only by debris of a few Chinese huts) is claimed as Russian territory, by right of conquest, because Russian blood was spilt there in the defence of Tientsin last June and July. The claim is denied by the other Powers, on the ground that by international agreement there was no war of conquest, and furthermore all nations alike took part in defending Tientsin, and all shed their blood on that particular spot as well as elsewhere." It seems, moreover, that the proposed siding was specially designed to facilitate the carriage of supplies from vessels in the Peiho to Peking, the question of military supplies having been particularly provided for when the railway was handed back to the British, as our Tientsin correspondent has already informed us and as may be seen from the terms of the convention which we reprint in another column from Dr. MORRISON's despatch to the Times. At present, the construction of the siding having been stopped, though both British and Russian troops have been withdrawn, the carriage of supplies must therefore be delayed. The matter, however, being in Count VON WALDERSEE's hands, we may hope for a speedy solution of a very disagreeable incident, and whichever way the dispute is settled the decision must meet with loyal acquiescence. With regard to the Russian claim, no one will deny the bravery of their troops at Tientsin last year and the large share which they took in the preservation of the Settlement while it was cut off from the rest of the world. But that this is an adequate justification for land-grabbing is not a doctrine to be countenanced, though other Powers are disposed to act upon it at Tientsin with less claim than Russia. Further, all the Powers disclaimed any idea of gaining territory as a result of the recent disturbances, a fact which some of them seem inclined to forget. It looks now as if the railway dispute were likely to be settled with more expedition than is habitual with disputes in China. A more serious situation is threatened over the Manchurian Convention. New York reports indeed are to the effect that China has actually rejected the Convention, and our telegram from Shanghai yesterday confirmed this, for from that it appears that the Reform party at Shanghai had received a despatch from the Grand Council at Hsianfu announcing that the Imperial Court had telegraphed to YANG YU, Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg, forbidding him to sign the Convention on behalf of China. This is indeed much better news than we

had any reason to expect. Russia has been pressing for many weeks, with her usual insistence and her customary employment of Chinese venality, for the concession of enormous privileges, which not only secured for her Manchuria (under a promise of return which no one considered worth the paper on which it was written), but also, if the *North-China Daily News* correspondent is right, a vague but extraordinary control over mines, railways, etc., in Mongolia, Kashgar, Yarkand, Khotan, and Chinese Turkestan. Such privileges, if granted, could only point to the ultimate absorption by Russia of all the outlying dependencies of the Chinese Empire. Yet appeals from China to the other Powers appear (as far as official information goes) only to have met with the advice, not very comforting under the circumstances, to "be firm." It is possible, of course, even probable, that secret influences may have been brought to bear, which have given the Chinese Government more encouragement to resist the monstrous aggressions threatened by Russia; but Japan alone publicly committed herself to any strong statement, when she told China that special privileges to Russia in Manchuria would involve compensation to Japan elsewhere—obviously somewhere within the Eighteen Provinces, the integrity of which seem to appeal even to the more venal Chinese officials. Though but weakly supported, China yet appears to have risen for once to the occasion. It would be foolish to be sanguine, but if the Manchurian Convention is rejected by China firmly and consistently, there are hopes that further spoliation may cease. It is, however, the duty of all interested in the affairs of China to support the present attitude of her Government. It is useless to talk against the partition of China, while calmly watching the first steps which lead inevitably to that partition.

(Daily Press, 29th March.)

Within a very short time of one another on Wednesday night we received two telegrams from Shanghai, one stating that YANG YU, Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg, had refused Count LAMSDORFF's demand that he should sign the Manchurian Convention, and the other that LI HUNG-CHANG had actually signed the Convention on Wednesday, under pressure of the threat that Russia would "haul down the Chinese flag"—presumably over Government buildings in Manchuria. If both these reports are true, it is plain that LI HUNG-CHANG signed without authority from the Chinese Government, who therefore are not bound in the slightest degree by the action of one who has so long been a tool of Russia. In this context we may quote what the *North-China Daily News* justly calls a characteristic telegram, which LI HUNG-CHANG sent to Hsian when he learned of the protests against his scheme:—"If Your Majesty do not ratify the agreement, Russia will remain and take possession of Manchuria for ever, and other countries will follow suit. If Your Majesty will ratify it, Russia promises to return all Manchuria to China, and this will prevent further protests from the Foreign Powers." If any threat were actually made to haul down the Chinese flag, it would seem that Russia were tired of the pretence of willingness to restore Manchuria to China, and seeing the impotence and credulity of the other Powers, were resolved to sail if necessary under her true colours. Writing from Peking on the 18th ult., Dr. MORRISON said:—"Once more it is necessary to emphasise the fact that China unaided is

unable to resist any demand pressed by Russia. Russia appears determined to profit by the condition to which China is reduced by the action of the other Powers, just as she profited by obtaining the Primorsk province after the war of 1860, and Port Arthur and Talienwan subsequent to the war of 1895." No stronger confirmation of the *Times* correspondent's word is needed than the events of the last few days. China now stands practically unaided, and her most prominent representative is showing his usual willingness to sell her interests. Moreover, he is by no means alone in his feelings toward Russia. As Dr. MORRISON points out in the same despatch which we have just quoted, the Chinese argue that Russia, having no interests south of the Great Wall, no missionaries, no trade, and no troops, can weaken the action of the other Ministers to the advantage of China, and therefore can reasonably expect in return benevolent treatment from China in any agreement proposed outside the Great Wall, especially as Russia is in military occupation already. There is little reason to wonder if China, seeing that Russia cannot be ousted from Manchuria by any efforts of hers, and drawing her conclusions from the vacillation of the Powers, should resolve to take the line of least resistance, accept finally the patronage which Russia has so long been offering and which statesmen of the LI HUNG-CHANG school have done their best to make China accept, and endeavour by the help of Russia (secured by the sacrifice of Manchuria to start with) to consolidate her position in the Eighteen Provinces against the other Powers. From a Chinese point of view it is decidedly better to have Russia friendly and the other nations quiescent, than Russia actively hostile and the other nations sympathetic, but unwilling or afraid to assist.

What there may be behind the *Novosti's* advocacy of an alliance between Russia and Japan it is impossible to guess. Often in the past has a St. Petersburg paper been allowed to send up a *ballon d'essai* for the purpose of ascertaining, without any officials being committed, what are the chances of some project. Russia may well wish to know whether Japan's hostility to her has been at all assuaged of late. The harmony indeed between the troops of the two nations during the fighting in the North was sufficient, but the attitude of the Japanese native Press just now about Corea shows that at least as far as the Peninsula is concerned Japan is as jealous as ever she was. The *Novosti's* argument as to the advantage to Japan of an alliance with Russia can hardly even be called specious. The St. Petersburg journal speaks of Japan gaining by "refusing to take the risk of losing what she has." This comes well from a representative of that nation which reaped the principal harvest from Japan's struggle with China in 1895! A combination of the European Powers then agreed to hand over to Russia what Japan had won; and Britain acquiesced, guided by the believers in the "benevolent intentions of Russia" and those foolish sentimentalists who were shocked at the suggestion of any alliance between a white and a yellow race and readily swallowed the inventions of an irresponsible American correspondent about Japanese atrocities. It was true we took as a reward Weihaiwei, which we have since been at pains not to make too valuable, but this gain does not compensate for the general shortsightedness of our action. If Russia could win the friendship of Japan by the abandonment of her intrigues in

Corea, the alliance might conceivably be advantageous to both and we might see an Asiatic alliance calculated to influence much the future history of the Far East. Europe would then have the doubtful satisfaction of knowing that she had achieved by her vagaries of policy the solidification of Asia, with no prospect of personal profit.

THE NEW CHINA BLUE-BOOK.

(Daily Press, 28th March.)

The Blue-book on China No. 1 (1901), which was issued in London on the 18th February, contains correspondence respecting the disturbances in China, as the official title styles the stirring events of last year. The period covered by the correspondence extends from the 29th June to the 30th September last year, and the subjects dealt with are of course very various. It cannot be said, however, that there is much that is new among the four hundred and four documents now made public, or that the Blue-book exceeds in interest the average of such publications; nor again that the reader will be much enlightened as to the policy of Great Britain in China last year. The important negotiations with the Yangtze Viceroy, whereby the peace of the central provinces was so successfully secured, are more clearly revealed, but the outlines of the proceedings have long been familiar, together with the final result that the British Government marked its appreciation of the conduct of CHANG CHI-TUNG by making him an advance of £75,000, through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, for the payment of his troops. A number of despatches deal with the question of Japan sending a strong force to effect the relief of the besieged Legations at Peking, a course which early in July Lord SALISBURY was warmly advocating. He received strong support from M. DELCASSE, but Russia misunderstood the suggestion and apparently thought Lord SALISBURY wished Japan to settle the Chinese crisis alone. Count LAMSDORFF, writing to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in London, speaks of "a mission given by Europe to Japan, to send considerable forces to China, not only to save the Legations and the foreign subjects, but with a view to the suppression of the insurrectionary movement provoked by the Boxers and the re-establishment of order at Peking and Tientsin." This, Count LAMSDORFF continued, might (in Russia's opinion) to a certain extent encroach on the fundamental principles accepted by the majority of the Powers as the basis of their policy in China; that is, the maintenance of union between the Powers, the maintenance of the existing system of government in China, the exclusion of anything leading to partition, and the re-establishment by common effort of a legitimate central power, capable of assuring order and security to China. This misunderstanding of Lord SALISBURY's proposal took a series of despatches to set right. Japan showed herself ready to act, and Lord SALISBURY on the 18th July intimated that Her Majesty's Government was willing to assist the Japanese Government up to £1,000,000 if they at once mobilised and despatched an additional 20,000 men to Peking. But Japan, in the absence of any definite scheme of operations on the part of the Powers, showed an unwillingness to accede to this proposal, which accordingly fell through, and in consequence the relief of the Legations was delayed to the memorable 15th August.

Among the other matters dealt with, the most important are the questions of the landing of the British troops at Shanghai, the appointment of Count VON WALTERSEE

as generalissimo of the Allies, the long discussion over Russia's suggestion for the evacuation of Peking after the relief of the Legations, and the events leading up to the Russian bombardment of Newchwang—an affair which appears even more unjustifiable than before. Throughout the volume evidences are plain of the treacherous conduct of the Chinese Government, which at one and the same time was assuring Great Britain, by the agency of the Chinese Ambassador in London, of the welfare of the Legations and attempting to bring the Yangtze Viceroy over to the anti-foreign cause. This behaviour of the Chinese Government was, on the evidence of all the recent official publications, manifested throughout the events of last year, and steps ought certainly to be taken that the agents employed by China in this series of base frauds may not have the opportunity of playing such a part again. Personally the Chinese Ambassador in London is no doubt an amiable and an educated man; but he lent himself to a scheme dishonouring to all concerned, and his social qualities do not blot out this stain. A large number of minor questions are dealt with in the Blue-book, but it is not necessary to refer to them here, as practically no new facts come to light.

A NEW SCARE IN COREA.

(Daily Press, 23rd March.)

The information telegraphed out by our London correspondent is certainly surprising, but the surprise is not so much at the alarming character of the rumour as at the fact of the *Times* attaching too much importance to it. Certain events of last year might have been expected to lead to incredulity among the leading London papers as to news coming through some Shanghai channels. There is, of course, no inherent impossibility in Russia having ordered her warships in Japanese waters to sail for Corea, but in view of the fact that she has already a portion of her fleet in the neighbourhood of Masampo it seems highly improbable that she should openly court Japan's hostility, especially at a time when her own relations with Great Britain are so strained as they are at present. The Russian authorities are fully aware of the profound suspicion with which Japan regards her approaches toward Corea. They have not been allowed to forget it. No one would be astonished, least of all the Russians, if, in event of Russia suddenly concentrating her fleet off the Korean coast, Japan were to do as the *China Gazette* apparently states she had done, to mobilise a squadron for immediate despatch to Corea. Nor would the step be unreasonable. Japan has very genuine interests in Corea, beyond the traditional and historical connection with the two countries, and the Japanese statesman who would counsel the abandonment of these interests would finish his political prospects at one stroke. This latest story of Russian aggression seems most decidedly in contradiction to Russia's usual wisdom in selecting the time when to advance, and will require the very strongest confirmation before it can be accepted as true.

The Imperial Japanese training cruisers *Hashidate* and *Idzushima*, with the Japanese naval graduates for 1900 on board, are expected to arrive at Singapore at the end of April. They left Japan on the 19th inst. and will call at Manila, Labuan and Batavia en route. They are time to leave Singapore about May 4th, and will return to Japan via Bangkok, Hongkong, Amoy, Shanghai, Chefoo, and the Korean ports.

OUR INADEQUATE POLICE FORCE.

(Daily Press, 23rd March.)

A little over a week ago, when discussing the Annual Report of the Captain Superintendent of Police, we pointed out that it was a notorious fact that for quite a number of years past the strength of the force under Captain Superintendent MAY's command had been much lower than it should have been. We said too that satisfaction would be felt that the force had been materially added to during the last year—the nett addition for the year was sixty-five, of whom thirty-three were Europeans, a proportion which we should like to see maintained—but that the standard of safety had not yet been reached, considering the wide area to be patrolled and protected. The continued insufficiency of the police force, in spite of its large increase, has been vividly illustrated during the past few weeks, which have seen two daring burglaries at the same shop in Queen's Road, on China New Year's Day and the 21st inst.; a murderous attack on Mr. ESROM in Bowen Road on the 3rd inst. in broad daylight, between the hours of 2 and 3 p.m.; and the cruel assault on Mr. REEK on the Praya on the morning of the 14th inst. All these deeds were effected without attracting the attention of the police. We have heard also of several minor cases of assault recently, but as in no cases did the aggrieved persons think fit to report to the police they are perhaps scarcely worthy of notice, except as illustrating the general proposition that our local guardians of the peace are by no means sufficient at present to cope with the work before them. In the early days of this Colony violent attacks and robberies by Chinese roughs were an alarming feature of life on the Island. The police force was then, of course, very small compared with what it is now. Much, however, as it has been increased, unless it can bring about a reasonable security for the persons and property of those living in Hongkong it can but be considered quite inadequate. We trust that no time will be lost by the Government in bringing the force up to the requisite numerical standard. If, as has been suggested, the pay and allowances at present are not sufficient to attract enough men of the class wanted, surely it would be better to spend a little more and remove this disgrace of insecurity to person and property which is apparently threatening us once more.

In H.B.M. Supreme Court for China and Japan at Shanghai, Chief Justice H. S. Wilkinson, on the 19th inst., delivered a long and exhaustive interlocutory judgment in the suit of Pickwood & Co. v. the *Shanghai Mercury*. The action, it will be remembered, was instituted, *inter alia*, to ascertain whether the plaintiffs, who are the proprietors of the *North-China Daily News*, had any remedy against the *Shanghai Mercury* for publishing their new telegrams either on the day of publication or the evening following. There were three issues framed, and the Court in answer to the first and second held that assuming the statements in the petition to be true, the plaintiffs were entitled under the Copyright Acts, as extended to British subjects in China, to the relief claimed, but as to the third issue they had no remedy by civil process by virtue of the order in Council of February 2nd, 1899. The costs of the application would be costs in the cause. Commenting on the above, the *N.-C. Daily News* remarks:—"It will be seen that we have gained the first and most important stage in the action we were obliged to take to protect ourselves from a continuance of the piratical proceedings from which we have been so long sufferers."

MALARIA: CURE AND PREVENTION.

(Daily Press, 25th March.)

The report, which is printed in the *Government Gazette* of Saturday's date, of Dr. J. BELL, Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer for this Colony, contains some remarks on the matter of malarial fever which should be read by all in Hongkong. During the past year 674 cases of this destructive fever have been treated, as against the 469 treated in 1899, and the study of the disease has received a great impetus here as elsewhere. A large amount of speculation has arisen over the best means of getting rid of mosquitoes since the confirmation by Dr. MANSON and others of the discovery that mosquitoes can and do give malaria to mankind. Dr. BELL says that personally he is of opinion that a great deal more knowledge is required of the life history of these insects before there will be much chance of doing any permanent good in this direction. "Dr. Thomson's report," he says, "on the prevalence of anopheles confirms the fact that on their presence or absence depends the number of cases of fever in a given locality. Perhaps some energetic entomologist may turn up in the Colony who will devote his time to ascertaining more about the breeding places and time and other facts connected with their mode of living, for in this direction lies some hope of keeping them under. The total destruction of such a large family as the mosquito seems to me an almost impossible undertaking, and, though in individual cases some good may be done I do not think much hope can be held out of any large diminution in the cases of malaria by destroying these pests." Dr. BELL further adds, when dealing with the malarial cases among the Police force which were treated at the Government Civil Hospital: "The confirmation of the malaria-mosquito theory early in the year held out great theoretical hopes that the disease would soon be much diminished, but on mature consideration I do not think very much good can be expected in this direction, especially in the New Territory where ideal breeding-grounds, in the shape of paddy fields, exist to such a large extent." The slightest acquaintance with the New Territory is sufficient to show the justice of this last remark. As far as stamping out mosquitoes altogether is concerned the New Territory offers a field for labour which is beyond our means to deal with. The task of seeking out and treating the breeding-places of the mosquito on the Island itself is likely to be arduous enough if the steps, details of which were given in Dr. Thomson's report read at the last meeting of the Sanitary Board, are systematically carried on and the area dealt with be made to cover the City of Victoria alone. Those laymen who have followed with interest the researches of medical men into the malaria-mosquito theory, as it is conveniently called, should read Dr. BELL's closing words of advice, which are much to the point. He says: "I am still of opinion that best prophylaxis is the daily use of a small dose of quinine (3 to 5 grains) throughout the summer (May to November) but I am very sceptical as to whether it will ever be possible to persuade the bulk of the population to adopt this course. I certainly think the better educated amongst the community might in this instance do worse than follow medical advice, though possibly they will prefer to go on expecting Government to kill off all the mosquitoes regardless of cost, which

"idea seems at present to have taken hold of most." With regard to the means of meeting the disease in the New Territory, Dr. BELL in the section dealing with the malarial sufferers among the Police expresses hopes that if more attention is paid to the sites and buildings thereon and quinine freely used in small daily doses we may see a slow but sure yearly diminution in the cases. The general impression to be derived from the remarks of the Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer is that, while the systematic destruction of mosquitoes is in the present state of our knowledge impossible of realisation, there is a ready means to check malaria to hand, which we have no excuse for neglecting. We should like to see Dr. BELL's words generally taken to heart.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 22nd March, 7.55 p.m.

The Chinese report that the Throne is signing the Manchurian convention unaltered.

On Tuesday last the British and Russian guards were both withdrawn from Tientsin station by Count von Waldersee's order pending the home settlement of the affair. All is now quiet.

The Australian Naval Brigade leaves on Sunday.

The Empress Dowager threatens to depose Pu Chun, the heir apparent, owing to his unruly behaviour.

SHANGHAI, 25th March, 10.59 a.m.

News has arrived from Peking that the Rev. J. Stonehouse, of the London Missionary Society, is reported dead, having been shot by armed robbers at a place forty miles south-east of Peking.

SHANGHAI, 25th March, 7 p.m.

The Grand Council at Hsianfu telegraphs to the Reformers' committee here that the Throne has despatched a telegram to Yang Yu, Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg, forbidding the signature of the Manchurian Convention.

SHANGHAI, 27th March, 7.48 p.m.

Chinese officials report that Yang Yu has refused Count Lamsdorff's demand that he should sign the Manchurian Convention, pleading the Imperial edict, which Count Lamsdorff taking for granted [?] has given a brief delay.

The Chinese Minister at Tokyo has received orders to assure Japan that China has determined to refuse the signature of the Manchurian Convention.

Eight anti-Christian rioters have been beheaded at Changsha, in Hunan.

SHANGHAI, 27th March, 8.35 p.m.

Li Hung-chang signed the Manchurian Convention to-day under the threat of M. de Giers to haul down the Chinese flag.

SHANGHAI, 28th March, 7.56 p.m.

The statement that Li Hung-chang has affixed his signature to the Manchurian Convention proves to be only a rumour.

Kwei Chun, Viceroy of Szechuen, has telegraphed to the patriots here that he fully concurs in their protest to the Throne, and that he himself has telegraphed to the Grand Council at Hsianfu, protesting against the Convention.

Six Viceroy and seven Governors have wired to the patriotic party at Shanghai that they concur in the protest.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, on Tuesday, the 19th March, 1901, at 2.30 p.m.—Present: Sir Thomas Jackson (Chairman), Messrs. C. S. Sharp (Vice-Chairman), A. Haupt, (Hon.) J. J. Keswick, A. M. Marshall, W. Poate, R. L. Richardson, N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, (Hon.) J. Thurburn (*ex officio*), and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting (held 14th February), and of the special meeting held on the 25th February were read and confirmed.

THE CHAIRMANSHIP.

The Chairman said that before proceeding to the business of the meeting he should like to say two or three words about his election as Chairman. He was much obliged to the members of the Chamber for the honour they had done him, but he had no idea that it was intended beforehand or he should certainly have declined it in advance. The fact was he had not the time to give to the work, and he should feel obliged if the Committee would find some one to take his place.

There being no response to his appeal, the Chairman said he must act for the present.

The Vice-Chairman said he was in much the same position as Sir Thomas Jackson. He had no idea that he would be elected or he should have protested against it. He really had not had the experience necessary.

The Committee considered Mr. Sharp should accept the position.

RESIGNATION OF MEMBER.

The Chairman read a letter to the Secretary from Mr. A. M. Marshall tendering his resignation from the Committee owing to his early departure for Japan.

The Chairman, after expressing the thanks of the Committee to Mr. Marshall for his services during the past year, proposed that Mr. H. A. Ritchie be invited to rejoin the Committee in his place.

Hon. J. J. Keswick seconded; and the motion was carried.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Chairman proposed, the Vice-Chairman seconded, and it was carried, that the Corresponding Committee should consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. J. J. Keswick, and Mr. H. A. Ritchie, and the Arbitration Committee be composed as follows:—Messrs. A. Haupt, W. Poate, R. L. Richardson, N. A. Siebs, and H. E. Tomkins.

THE TRANSIT OF PRODUCE IN CHINA.

The Secretary reported that since the last meeting a copy of the letter of Mr. H. Kopsch, addressed to the China Association, had been forwarded to him by that body and circulated. Mr. Kopsch urged that the Treaty Powers should insist on the Chinese Government accepting and adopting the Chinkiang outward transit regulations at all Treaty Ports, &c.

The Chairman said this was a large question and would require more consideration than they had been able so far to give to it, and he thought it would have to be taken in connection with that large question of Tariff Revision.

The Committee heartily concurred in these remarks.

THE REGULATION OF TRAFFIC IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

Read letter from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire calling attention to the need for some regulations to control and direct the navigation of native craft in the approaches to the harbour.

A draft letter to the Government on the subject by the Secretary was read and adopted.

THE TRADE IN NAPHTHA AND GASOLINE.

A letter dated the 27th February having been received from the Government, forwarding copy of a letter from the Standard Oil Company of New York, and inquiring whether, in the opinion of the Committee, the trade in the above products was likely to assume any large proportions in the Colony.

To this reply was despatched on the 11th March to the effect that though at the outset the trade would be small it might eventually attain to considerable proportions.

THE FUMIGATION AND DISINFECTING BUREAU.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary in reply to the Chamber's letter of the 14th February on this subject, dated 22nd idem, stating that a copy of the letter and its enclosure had been sent to the Government of the Straits Settlements inquiring whether they would consent to the proposal made by the Chamber.

The Chairman said that they must now await the decision of the Straits Government in the matter.

THE PROPOSED REGISTRATION OF SERVANTS.

In accordance with the decision come to at the last meeting, a letter was despatched to the Government on this subject, in reply to a request to the Chamber for their opinion, to the effect that the Committee considered that the enactment of such a law would be inadvisable and probably impracticable.

The Chairman said he thought that closed the matter so far as the Committee were concerned.

THE PROPOSED RE-SURVEY OF EASTERN SEAS.

The Chairman said, as they were aware, another letter on this subject had been received from the Secretary to the Fourth Congress of Chambers, after further communication with the Foreign Offices. He thought it would perhaps be well to first read the Chamber's letter, which was dated the 5th February.

The letters were then read.

The Chairman, continuing, expressed the opinion that there was nothing further to be said, and, after some discussion,

It was decided to send a courteous reply in acknowledgment.

QUARANTINE.

Read letter from Government, in reply to Chamber's letter of the 11th February regarding the publication of quarantine notifications, to the effect that H. E. the Governor had decided to ascertain the views of the Government of the Straits Settlements before definitely deciding this question.

Also read letter from Singapore Chamber of Commerce in reply to an inquiry addressed to it by this Chamber as to what publicity was given to the notification declaring Singapore infected, stating in reply that the notification in question was posted in the Shipping Office, published in the local newspapers on the 29th and 30th November, and in the *Government Gazette*, and the Committee did not see how it could well have been made more public.

Also read two letters of 6th March and one dated 11th idem from the Colonial Secretary forwarding quarantine notices from Rangoon and Calcutta, which had been acknowledged, the attention of the Government being then drawn to the apparently comprehensive means adopted by the Rangoon Authorities to secure publicity for their notifications.

Further letters, dated 12th, 15th, 16th, 16th and 18th March, from the Government with reference to quarantine notices were then read. The first stated, that quarantine as against Hongkong had been withdrawn at Calcutta and Chittagong; the next that it had been imposed at Saigon against arrivals from this port for twelve days; the next that it had been imposed at Netherlands Indian ports against Hongkong on account of small-pox; the fourth that it had been removed at Burmese ports as against arrivals from Singapore; and the last giving a return of cases of plague at Singapore, showing that ten clear days had elapsed there without a case being reported, and that a clean bill of health had been issued accordingly.

PROPOSED REVISION OF THE CHINESE TARIFF.

The Chairman said the Secretary had, owing to pressure of work, been unable to draft a letter to the British Minister at Peking to give the views of the Chamber on this subject as requested. He thought this matter would entail a good deal of enquiry and consideration, and from the present aspect of affairs up North he was afraid the opportunity for the settlement of the Tariff and former kindred questions was still distant.

THE LATE CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman—That concludes the business on the agenda, gentlemen, but before we separate I think we should take some special notice of the services of the late Chairman and

our colleague. Mr. Gray presided over the Chamber for some four years and gave great attention to the work. I do not think it is too much to say that the remarkable progress made by the Chamber of late years was aided by his efforts. I therefore now move that the Committee do tender to Mr. R. M. Gray their very hearty thanks for his eminent services as Chairman of this Chamber during the past four years, and the Secretary be instructed to convey this resolution to Mr. Gray in writing. (Applause).

The Vice-Chairman said he cordially concurred with the remarks made by the Chairman about Mr. Gray, and he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution just proposed.

The resolution was then put and carried amid acclamation.

This concluded the business.

SERIOUS TROUBLE IN VICTORIA GAOL.

Shortly after noon on the 27th inst., a rather serious incident occurred in Victoria Gaol, three Chinese convicts rising in revolt and attacking Mr. R. H. Craig, assistant superintendent of the prison, and Mr. E. J. Pierpoint, chief warder. Through the courtesy of the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police, we are able to give the following account of the affair. Mr. Craig and Mr. Pierpoint were inspecting the yard, when without warning they were attacked by two convicts, one of whom is undergoing sentence of fourteen years' imprisonment for complicity in a robbery in Winglok Street in 1894, when it may be remembered, an Indian police constable was shot; the second man was last year sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for piracy committed upon one of the many launches running from Hongkong to adjacent ports. A third convict, undergoing three years' imprisonment for forgery, joined in the attack, and the three men, two armed with knives and the third with the blade of a joiner's plane—which weapons they had presumably obtained in the workshop—rushed from behind upon Mr. Craig and Mr. Pierpoint. The first intimation the former received of the existence of anything out of the common was a stab on the back of the neck. He wheeled round, and, taking in at a glance the gravity of the situation, got his back against a wall and defended himself. Mr. Pierpoint grappled with one of the convicts, and was attacked by another of the gang, who cut him on the leg. Hearing the disturbance, four Indian warders and two European prisoners rushed to the assistance of the two menaced officers, whose position was becoming perilous. The three armed convicts turned furiously upon the rescuers, and one of the Indian warders was stabbed severely in the neck, the remaining three warders and the two Europeans receiving slight cuts before their now desperate assailants were overpowered. Mr. Craig's wound is the most serious, but it is nevertheless fortunate that his assailant's knife encountered the bone, which prevented the further passage of the weapon. The injuries to the others are superficial. The three convicts will be charged before the magistrate by Captain Superintendent May, probably next week.

It appears that there is a cry now raised against British money circulating in Netherlands West Borneo. Patriots suggest, the *Straits Times* says, the enforcement of the use of Dutch money, so as to do away with the evil of foreign coin supplanting it. People on the spot say that this is no easy matter. It all arises from the trade between West Borneo and Singapore being in the hands of Chinese and other foreign Asiatics. Among them British influence is so noticeable that in West Borneo many English-speaking Chinese are met with, but not one who speaks Dutch. There is indeed no chance of foreign coin being ousted from there until Dutch traders control business in that quarter. The *Batavia Nieuwsblad* also dwells on the fact that foreign coin is ousting Dutch mintage from other localities in Netherlands India and urges that at least all payments in Dutch territory should be made in Dutch coin.

THE "CANTON RIVER" ON EVEN KEEL AGAIN.

Between five and six o'clock on Thursday afternoon the appliances enwrapping the sunken dredger, with the connecting hawsers to H.M.S. *Centurion*, bore the steam pressure placed upon them so successfully that foot by foot she steadily turned into position, until at last she became perpendicular, and was on an even keel once more. It has been a work of considerable anxiety to those who have had the management of it, as well as to those who devised the plan by which it could be carried out. In our issue of Saturday last we described the operations in detail, and referred to the two purchases which had been placed into position. The third having been securely fixed, it only remained for the connection to be made between the dredger and H.M.S. *Centurion*. On Monday the connecting work was commenced, and a Government Notification warned any craft from passing between the dredger and the dolphin off Murray Pier, and intimated that while the work of righting was in progress, an additional obstruction would exist between the *Canton River* and the *Centurion*. A straight course having been secured for the hawsers by the removal of H.M.S. *Tamar*, the double purchases were connected with the steam-power of the *Centurion*, and the third to a mooring lighter, with the result that at a given signal the haul was effected, and the dredger became righted, as we have stated. She is now held by the anchor purchase, and, according to those best able to judge, cannot swerve in any way.

The following is the description of the operations above referred to, from our issue of Saturday last:—

What may be termed the final stage in the operations now in progress for lifting the *Canton River* was reached on the 22nd inst., when the second parbuckle out of the three which will be employed in the work was placed in position. The task so far has been exceptionally hazardous, inasmuch as, in the first place, before anything could be done towards carrying out this last conceived plan of raising her, nine-ounce guncotton charges had to be used in blasting holes in the ground below, so as to enable the lifting chains to be roved through the ground and round the vessel. This was rendered all the more difficult because of the rocky substances which compose the bed of the Harbour inshore at that particular spot. The holes having been thus bored, two "beds" or clamped rafts, so to speak, had to be constructed, and fitted into position on her starboard side, above the surface, the forward one being 7 feet 9 inches in height, and the after one 7 feet 7 inches. In this detail heavy timbers had to be used, some of them measuring 30 feet by 14 inches. These beds having been completed, two sets of chains were made fast to the starboard rail, and encircling the dredger, were brought up and attached to two extremely heavy purchases, the standing parts of which were anchored below. The hauling parts of these purchases are to be borne to one of the men-of-war in harbour, which will be taken to the spot, and by the aid of steam winches it is hoped the dredger will be pulled on an even keel. It now only remains for the third parbuckle to be fixed, when the purchases will be put into action. It is stated that those who have the management of the work in hand are confident of success.

The home papers gave the following details about Mr. Donald Matheson, who died on the 19th ult. at his residence in Queen's Gate Gardens, aged 82. Mr. Matheson was the son of Mr. James Sutherland Matheson, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company. After receiving his education at the Edinburgh High School, Mr. Matheson went out to China as an assistant in the firm, and rose to be a partner, but resigned on the ground of his disapproval of the opium traffic. He was hon. secretary of the Presbyterian Mission in India, and vice-president and treasurer of the Evangelical Alliance. In 1849 Mr. Matheson married Jane, daughter of Lieutenant Horace Pelly, R.N., and his heir is his son, Major Duncan Matheson, of the Inniskilling Dragoons.

MR. CONGER AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

Anent a paragraph which appeared in these columns on Tuesday regarding the reasons for Mr. Conger, the U.S. Minister, going on leave, a representative of this journal had an interview with the Minister just prior to his leaving Hongkong on Thursday by the steamer *Nippon Maru*.

Mr. Conger said he was in the best of health, although since he had been in Hongkong he had suffered from an attack of lumbago. His trip to Canton had done him a great deal of good and he felt quite improved. He confirmed the statement made by the *Shanghai Mercury* on the authority of "a well informed journalist," and said it was not true that he was leaving China on account of ill-health, for he never felt better. The fact of the matter was that, as Mr. Rockhill was at present in China and it was likely the negotiations with the Chinese Government would take some time, it was thought advisable for him (Mr. Conger) to take his leave now, and thus escape the trials of another summer at Peking. He had had a three years stay in the Chinese capital, and long before the troubles arose he intended to take a furlough. After the relief of Peking, and when Mr. Rockhill came over, he determined to return to the States, and wired to his Government to that effect. As, however, the negotiations, more especially with reference to the indemnities, would take some time he had arranged with the authorities at Washington to leave them to Mr. Rockhill, and take a six months' furlough. He was therefore due to return to Peking on 1st September next.

During the visit to Hongkong of Mr. Conger and his family, trips were made both to Canton and Macao. Mr. Conger was very cordially received at Canton, the Chinese authorities posting a guard of honour of 120 men at the wharf on the occasion of his landing and departure. Moreover, the party were entertained at a big dinner in the native city on the 24th inst. by a prominent Chinaman, ex-Minister to the United States, while a first-class theatrical company was engaged to entertain them after dinner. Mr. Conger was prevented by ill-health from being present, but Mrs. and Miss Conger were accompanied by the U.S. Consul at Canton. The visit to Canton was much enjoyed by all.

THE "GLENLYLE"-"HANG-CHOW" COLLISION.

The collision in the Harbour on the 21st inst., a few of the details of which appeared in our issue of 22nd inst., has excited much interest in shipping circles here in consequence of the altogether unusual circumstances attending it. Additional particulars to hand confirm the previously published account of the casualty, and add further information which goes to prove how disastrous was the error of judgment made in the navigation of one or other of the vessels. At the time of the accident, the harbour, at the point where the mishap occurred, was singularly free of small craft, and the wind, which had been somewhat high the earlier part of the day, had lulled to a great extent, so that the surface of the water was unusually placid. The *Glenlyle* was coming in from the South, and the *Hangchow* from the North. Both had a good head of steam, and of the two the *Hangchow* appeared to be having the most headway. Those on board the *Glenlyle* boat say they were proceeding to the buoy, and observed the other vessel some distance off, making apparently for a mooring position. When they got close, the *Hangchow* made an attempt to cross her bows, and this manoeuvre was thwarted by the *Glenlyle*, which struck her forward with considerable force. For a moment both vessels were telescoped, and when they parted a singular sight presented itself. The *Hangchow's* bow was completely stove in a few feet above the water line, and all the plates upwards to the deck had been pierced or damaged. The force of the impact was so great as to splinter the whole of the ship's side on the port bow aft to a distance of over twelve feet, and new plates will have to be fitted thereto. The *Glenlyle* had a large hole on her starboard bow,

which also runs down to the water-line, and she too will have to have fresh plates rivetted.

In the absence of any official enquiry into the cause of the recent collision in the harbour between the steamer *Hangchow* and the steamer *Glenlyle*, the latter vessel left port on the 26th for Shanghai, where she will undergo the necessary repairs prior to starting on her return trip. The damage to her has been estimated at about \$1,000. With regard to the *Hangchow*, the damage has been roughly estimated at \$40,000, and it will be some time before she is ready for sea again. The whole of the plates on her bow, both port and starboard, will have to be removed, and where the impact occurred some internal fittings will have to be replaced. It is stated that the mishap will become the subject of proceedings at Admiralty.

THE VITRIOL OUTRAGE.

Lo Tsoi, coolie, was brought up on remand on Tuesday before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy from the 20th inst. and charged with maliciously throwing vitriol upon Francis George Reek, the complainant, on the 14th inst. He had already pleaded guilty.

Captain Superintendent May resumed the case for the prosecution.

Francis George Reek, residing at 22, Morrison Hill Road, was called. He looked exceedingly ill, and had his head bound up. Mr. Reek said, in answer to Captain May, that he was leading man of stores at the Naval Yard, where he commenced his duties at seven every morning. On the 14th inst., at about twenty minutes to seven, he was walking along the Praya, and when opposite the French convent he saw some Chinese sitting on the parapet. He paid no attention to them, and was walking on, when there came a sudden flash, accompanied by a severe burning sensation. He shouted out, and pulled out his handkerchief to wipe his face. Just as he opened his eyes he saw a European, who had apparently jumped out of a ricksha which was standing near by. This man asked the complainant if he was hurt, and complainant replied that he had been burnt. Previous to this the complainant believed that Mr. Phasey—the European in question—ran after the man who had thrown the vitriol, but could not catch him. Mr. Reek, in answer to a question, said he had been severely injured, and was still suffering from the effects of the vitriol. His recollection was that the fluid came from the parapet of the Praya, but he could not say how it was thrown, nor by whom. The clothes produced were those he was wearing at the time. The large brown spots thereon were caused by the vitriol.

Mr. T. J. Wild, Acting Government Analyst called and sworn, said he received exhibits A, B, C, and D on the 16th inst. from Inspector Cuthbert. He examined the exhibits, and found that the stains were produced by nitric acid. He received at the same time some Chinese clothing, and this was also marked with nitric acid stains. Nitric acid was a noxious and dangerous fluid.

Mr. Tuck, surgeon, R.N., said Mr. Reek came to the Naval Hospital at about seven o'clock on the morning of the 14th inst. He was severely burnt on the right arm, across the forehead, and down each side of the face; the eyes, however, were practically untouched. The burns were caused by some corrosive acid; sulphuric acid would have had the same effect. Witness dressed the wounds and told Mr. Reek to report himself to Dr. Canton at the Dockyard.

Dr. Canton, R.N., who attended the complainant after he had passed through Mr. Tuck's hands, gave similar evidence, but did not regard the injuries as serious.

Inspector Cuthbert stated that at one o'clock in the afternoon of the 14th inst., exhibits A, B, C, and D were handed to him by Mr. Reek, in the presence of the complainant. At eight o'clock the same night, in the police station, he saw the defendant divest himself of exhibits E, F, and G, which, together with the other exhibits, witness handed to Mr. Wild on the 16th inst. in the forenoon.

The sergeant interpreter at the Central Police Station gave evidence as to reading over and explaining the charge to the defendant, and administering the usual caution. Defendant

made and signed a statement, which was taken down word for word.

On the 28th inst. the hearing was resumed, when Yeung Kun, store coolie, Naval Yard, who at first was charged in conjunction with Lo Tsoi, the coolie who pleaded guilty to throwing vitriol upon Mr. F. G. Reek on the 14th inst., was brought up and charged with being an accessory before the fact. He pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr. J. Hays, solicitor.

Wong Hop, a caulker in the Naval Yard, gave evidence to the effect that he was present when the defendant made arrangements with one Leung Pui—whose name has already been mentioned in connection with the case—to give him (Leung Pui)—\$5, which sum was to be paid over to the one who threw the "medicine water" on Mr. Reek.

Mr. Hays afterward cross-examined the witness.

The case is proceeding.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS

THE ANNUAL INSPECTION.

The annual inspection in connection with the Hongkong Volunteer Corps took place at Causeway Bay on the 23rd inst. The men fell in at the Volunteer Headquarters at half-past two, and though the weather was anything but promising there was an exceptionally good muster, about 300 being present. The Corps was marched to Causeway Bay, headed by the Regimental Colours and the Band.

On the men reaching the Polo Ground, they were drawn up in two lines and inspected by H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., who was accompanied by his staff. They were subsequently put through various evolutions. After this the men were formed up in three sides of a square, and

His EXCELLENCY the MAJOR-GENERAL addressed a few words to them. He said:—Sir John Carrington, and officers and men of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps. The inspection to-day has been a good one. I do not hesitate to say that the difference between you now and two years ago, when I first had the honour of seeing you, is very remarkable, and I do not mind saying that I feel the greatest pride in thinking that under my command the Hongkong Volunteer Corps has certainly justified its existence. When I first came to the colony it was a question in my mind whether you should remain a part of the defensive force of the colony, but there is no question about it that since then you have buckled to and shown us very clearly that it is your wish, and therefore your right, to form a really important part of the defensive force of the colony. Of course both you and I have been very greatly helped by several events. This time last year things were not looking so well with us. The war in South Africa had been going on, and there is no doubt that owing to that war very great energy was imparted throughout this colony, as throughout all parts of the empire. You came forward in great numbers. Since then affairs in North China have shown the necessity—the absolute necessity—of every able-bodied man endeavouring to do what he can towards the defence of his country. Now I would ask you not to allow this feeling to go down. I would ask you to keep it up and to let me see, during the remaining years of my command, a continued improvement in the Corps. I do not hesitate to say that I do see, in a number of ways, a great improvement, but it may be possible that I shall ask for further improvements, and you may rest assured that both His Excellency the Governor and myself have only one thought in our minds in regard to you, and that is to do the best we can for you, believing that you are an important part of the defensive force of this enormously important colony. I am very pleased with the inspection to-day. I am very pleased with the turn-out. The turn-out is certainly better than that of last year. There is more uniformity. There is more of the appearance of drilled men about you. In saying this I am specially anxious you should not think that I am come here to tell you a number of honeyed words which mean nothing. Although I tell you there has been a great improvement in you, at the same time I would

remind you that there is still room for improvement, and I hope to see further improvement during the ensuing year. Now I will come to the question of numbers. I am very pleased with the muster, which is far ahead of that of last year; but I regret to learn that there are so many men absent without leave. For a man to absent himself without leave is unjustifiable. If a man is sick and does not feel up to attending the inspection there is no reason whatever why he should not ask leave to be excused. I hope to see next year that my remarks have borne fruit. In all other things I am perfectly satisfied.

The regimental prizes won during the year were then distributed by His Excellency, after which the men were marched back to Headquarters. Here the Commandant (Lieut.-Col. Sir John Carrington, C.M.G.) addressed a few words to them, after which they were dismissed.

THE DRAFT MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

The N.-C. Daily News Peking correspondent sends that journal the following translation of this much-discussed convention:—

1.—The Emperor of Russia, being desirous to manifest friendly feelings, agrees to completely restore Manchuria to China without keeping in mind the fact of the recent warfare in that province, and Chinese administration shall be restored in all respects to the *status quo ante*.

2.—China granted to the railroad company, as stipulated in the sixth statute of the Eastern China Railroad Concession, the right of guarding the line with troops, but the country being still in disorder and the number of such troops being insufficient, it is necessary to station a body of troops in the province, which, however, will be withdrawn as soon as peace and order have been restored, and the provisions of the last four articles of the present convention shall have been carried out.

3.—In case of emergency the Russian troops stationed in the province shall render all possible assistance to China to suppress disturbances.

4.—The recent attacks against Russia having been conducted principally by the regular troops, China agrees not to organise any army before completion of the railway and its opening for traffic. When China shall subsequently organise military forces their number shall be fixed in consultation with Russia.

The importation of arms and ammunition into Manchuria is prohibited.

5.—In order to safeguard the province China should immediately dismiss such Governors-General or high local officials as shall have committed improper acts in connection with foreign relations and against which Russia shall have protested. China can organise infantry and cavalry forces in Manchuria for police purposes, but their number shall be fixed in consultation with Russia. Guns should be excluded from the arms to be given them and no subjects of any other Power shall be employed in connection with the execution of their functions.

6.—China should not, as previously agreed, employ subjects of any Power in training naval and military forces in the northern provinces.

7.—In order to maintain peace and order, the local authorities residing in the vicinity of the neutral zone provided for in the fifth article of the convention relative to the lease of territory in Liaotung, should establish such special regulations as would be suitable to the circumstances, and relinquish the administrative autonomy of Chinchou, which was renewed to China in the fourth article of the special convention.

8.—China should not grant, without consent of Russia, to any other Power or its subjects any advantages relative to mines, railways, and other matters in the Russo-Chinese frontier provinces, viz., in Manchuria, Mongolia, and Kashgar, Yarkand, Khotan, and in Turkestan. Neither shall she construct her own railways in those provinces without the consent of Russia. Leases of territory outside of Newchwang shall not be granted to the subjects of any other Powers.

9.—China being under obligation to pay the war expenses of Russia and claims of various other Powers, the amount of the Russian indemnities, the terms of payment, and the

security therefor, shall be adjusted conjointly with the other Powers.

10.—Indemnities to be paid as compensation for the destruction of the railway and the property of the employees of the company, and also for the losses accruing from delay of work shall be adjusted between China and the railway company.

11.—When the indemnities for various damages shall have been agreed upon between China and the railway company the whole or a part of the amount of such indemnities shall be met with advantages other than pecuniary compensation, that is to say, either revision of the existing agreement relating to the railway or grant of new advantages.

12.—China shall, as previously agreed, grant to Russia a concession for construction of a railway from the main or branch line of the Manchurian Railway towards Peking and to the Great Wall.

THE COREAN QUESTION.

Telegrams in the Japanese native papers give indications of future troubles in Corea. Some colour is given to the report of Russian and Japanese movements by two despatches to the *Asahi*. One, dated Seoul, March 15th, says:—A portion of the Russian Eastern Squadron is still lying somewhere between Chinkai Wan and Masampo. It is understood that an anchorage for warships will be chosen in the former Bay and a lease of it will be demanded of the Korean Government. The second is from Nagasaki two days later, and states, on the authority of a naval officer, that Rear-Admiral Arima, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese standing squadron with the *Shikishima*, *Idzumo*, *Asama*, *Yokumo*, *Takasago*, and *Murakumo*, was to reach Nagasaki on the 19th and proceed to Tsushima, between Japan and Corea, on the 22nd. A Mainichi telegram, dated Masampo, March 16th, says: 1,000 Marines with 20 guns were landed at Chinkai from Russian warships yesterday morning and went through exercises. The bulk of the men were removed to Kamashima in the afternoon. The *Jiji* says that it is reported that the Russian squadron will concentrate in Chemulpo early in April next.

According to a Seoul despatch the Korean Government has decided to despatch Ministers to Great Britain, America, Germany and France with the view of negotiating for the declaration of Corea as a neutral principality. It is reported that the Russian Minister is likely to demand the lease of a portion of Chinkai Wan. The Russian squadron in the Bay has already chosen a site and is making various preparations to remain there permanently. The French Minister to Seoul who returned a short time ago is reported to be in possession of instructions to assume an attitude in Corea somewhat in line with that of Russia. The *Asahi* correspondent adds that the Russian Minister to Seoul has addressed a communication to the Korean Foreign Department, objecting to the Government engaging foreigners other than Russians in the various Departments. The Korean Government has replied that the engagement of foreign engineers and instructors is not an infringement of any agreement with Russia.

Meanwhile internal disturbances are threatened by a dispute between the Imperial family and the Min family, who have influential members in the Government. Several partisans of both sides have been arrested. It is understood that there is a plot to drive the Min family out of the Government. Five of the persons arrested, however, were released again on the 17th inst.

Last year was a disastrous one for the silk trade in China. Anticipations of the consumption which would result from the Paris Exhibition were not fully realised, and over-production in Europe and America caused a weak demand and low prices. This was the more disappointing because the crop was a good one. The competition of Japan too was severely felt. Owing to the unwillingness of the banks to support the growers, large quantities were thrown upon the Yokohama market, and for months the stock there amounted to 25,000 bales, which frightened Continental buyers.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE FRENCH MAID."

The Dallas Musical Comedy Company staged *The French Maid* at the Theatre Royal on the 21st inst., and repeated their performance on the 22nd inst. This play has met with great success in London, having just completed a 300 nights' run at Terry's Theatre. *The French Maid* is essentially a musical comedy, and contains little in the nature of a plot, upon the unravelling of which the interest of an audience might be roused and maintained. This being the case, the success of the production must necessarily lie with the performers, and this responsibility was fully recognised and worthily assumed by the entire Dallas Company on Thursday and Friday evenings, 21st and 22nd inst.

Miss Evelyn de Worms took the principal lady's part of Dorothy Travers, and once more held the audience by her singing, which was repeatedly encored. Miss May Norton as Suzette had better scope for the exercise of acting abilities. As actress, dancer, and singer, she was all that one could ask, and the audience was indebted to her for no inconsiderable portion of the entertainment. The eccentric Lady Hawser had a clever exponent in Miss Bertha Hunter, and the laughable idiosyncrasies of the lady of the nautical name lost nothing by Miss Hunter's representation, and proved a fruitful source of amusement. Although the part of Madame Camembert is not vital to the production, Miss Nance Leslie succeeded in imparting an interest to it that quite rejected any idea of obscurity. Miss Violet Capel's cachuca dance in the second act roused a storm of applause, which the artiste's gracefulness of execution fully merited. A second tit-bit in this act was Miss Hettie Peel's song "Look the other way," which has been specially written and composed for the lady. The song, which is catchy both in words and in music, was vigorously encored, when Miss Peel responded with an equally good rendering of "Hullo, hullo, hullo!" the last verse of which she had to repeat. All the minor ladies' parts were satisfactorily represented.

Amongst the actors, Mr. Henry Dallas, although set down in the programme to play Charlie Brown, played the part assigned to Mr. Hugh Metcalfe, who is still suffering from a cold, and took the role of Jack Brown, an English sailor. It is rather to be regretted that this transposition was necessary, as the part of the waiter abounded in such possibilities as only Mr. Dallas, with his natural gift of drollery, could adequately take advantage of. However, as Jack Brown he played the breezy English sailor to perfection, and was enthusiastically applauded by the real Jack Tars in the audience. An especial hit was made by Mr. Dallas's rendering of "To be loved by a girl like that"—the "that" including quite a number of damsels whose portraits he "carried next his heart." Mr. Hugh Metcalfe's part of Charlie Brown, as has already been said, was rich in possibilities, and was well sustained by Mr. Bertram Hermann, who filled the vacancy. Probably the best character on the stage was that of Lieut. Harry Fife, taken by Mr. Harold Godwin. His acting is neither artificial nor forced, and his voice, though not exactly musical, is strong and pleasant. His song "England rules the sea," was received with quite deafening applause. Mr. Geo. L. Wilson as Paul (a gendarme) is inclined to be galvanic, and at times indulges in an excess of action and gesture that could be modified with decided advantage. Admiral Sir Hercules Hawser was very well played by Mr. J. B. Ferrell, although, for an Admiral, his grammar was remarkable, even startling. Mr. Arthur Stanley, Mr. E. C. Foster, Mr. R. D. Munro, and Mr. Montgomery carried themselves excellently in their respective parts, and contributed in no small measure to a pleasant evening's entertainment.

"THE GAY PARISIENNE."

Of the light musical plays included in the Dallas Company's repertoire, we question if there is one that has or will score the measure of success *The Gay Parisienne* achieved on our local boards on Monday and Tuesday nights. It has attained in Hongkong what it received in Lon-

don after a lengthened provincial tour—the highest pitch of popular enthusiasm and approval. Compared with the musical comedy of the day, as seen through the Dallas mirror, *The Gay Parisienne* is downright farce, replete with catchy music, a plentiful supply of song and dance, bright costumes, pretty scenery, and the unfailing verve that is born of success. The general effect was heightened by the exquisitely pretty costumes and the tastefully laid-out scenery surrounding the stage. Honeycomb's Lawn at Kingston-on-Thames, a view of which is given in the first act, although somewhat cramped for want of space, is nevertheless a capitally painted picture, and reflects considerable credit upon Mr. W. H. Palford, the scenic artist. In no measure has he allowed his brush to be extravagant. In the background he gives a really clever painting of a red brick wall upon and over the sides of which ivy and other evergreens cluster, and a viney encircling the sides, while in the centre a green gate leads to an outer path and an adjacent brook. On the right of the stage is the side door of Honeycomb's residence, and on the left are the rustic seats which complete the picture.

Of course, as may be expected, Mr. Henry Dallas as Mr. Ebenezer Honeycomb, a "shining light" in himself, is the hit of the evening, and in taking that laurel we are afraid that he must share a piece of it—if not a large portion—with Miss Beryl Mackay, his servant Ruth. As a slavey of the "Lor-lov-me" stamp she was life itself, and from the moment she waddled out of the house and playfully skipped about the lawn, till she gave a vivid realization of a death scene as a *felo de se*, she never lost the admiration of the house, who simply showered their enthusiastic applause upon her. But when she gave the song entitled "Sister Mary Jane's top-note" she eclipsed herself, and was recalled again and again. In the leading role Miss May Norton fairly outshone all her previous efforts, and we doubt if a better selection could possibly have been made either in the original production at home or in any other for that matter. There was real life and truly wonderful vivacity imported into the part, and that, too, without touching the tender susceptibilities of the most fastidious. That she was "Gay" admitted of no doubt; it was that gaiety always observable in the French capital. Miss Norton has naturally a winsome manner about her, so that she assumed her role with a singular *sang froid*. Her coquettish air dove-tailed nicely with the little caprices and flirtations she had with one and another as the evening wore on, and her witty sayings and apt repartees kept the audience in an incessant ripple of laughter. Her vocal efforts were not altogether so good as we have noticed them in previous plays, but that no doubt must have been brought about by a slight indisposition. However, she sustained her part remarkably well, and she fully deserved the warm encomiums she received from her hearers. In Major Fosdyke, of the "Battersea Butterfly Shooters," Mr. D. Munro certainly displayed his histrionic abilities to the highest advantage. Rarely have we seen him in a role which fitted him so closely, and in which his many years experience of the boards was made apparent. Mr. Hugh Metcalf, now completely recovered from his recent bronchial trouble, with resuscitated energy took the part of the barrister, and pleaded the plaintiff's case. It was then that his deep voice had full bent, and where his elocutionary ability was seen to its highest. In the duet with Norah Honeycomb (Miss Evelyne de Worms), "Somebody's own," he received the rapturous plaudits of the audience, and was twice recalled. Mrs. Henry Dallas, as Mrs. Honeycomb, sustained her already assured reputation, and gave her audience an insight into English home-life, both in the hour of prosperity, and when dark clouds have enshrouded it. Her detestation of things modern, notably in the "bloomer" costumes of the day, and her maternal counsels to Ebenezer, who would "listen but never heed" them, were highly appreciated, and she well merited the warm reception she received. Mr. J. B. Ferrell, as Amos Dingle, caused considerable merriment by his "glorious mix up" with the redoubtable Ebenezer, and in his quaint re-echo of the "Cock-a-doodle-do," sung by a quartet of the Honeycomb family, including *The Gay Parisienne*.

In the second act we get a view of The Spa Hotel, Schoffenburgen, and here again the scenic artist has exhibited another admirable painting. Nothing could be more realistic than the pump from which Hans (Mr. Harold Godwin), the proprietor of the hotel, draws his mineral water from the "bowels of the earth." In this act Miss Capel introduced her favourite "dance of nations." Beyond one or two defects, caused in no small degree by the unskilful switching of the electric light, the performance was a highly commendable one, and the audience were not slow to appreciate it. She was the recipient of two or three floral offerings, as well as the appreciative applause of the house, all of which she had fairly won by her exertions. Miss Hetti Peel sang "Sons of the sea," which became another feature of the entertainment. She threw considerable pathos into her enunciation, and called forth an outburst of patriotic fervour seldom witnessed at similar gatherings. The whole house rose with her in the refrain, and she was recalled again and again. It was a triumphant success, and not until she was fairly outdone would the audience cease their deafening applause and shouts of recall. On the whole *The Gay Parisienne* has been a brilliant success.

"THE GEISHA"

Though *The Geisha* is not a novelty it is extremely popular, and consequently almost every theatrical company which visits the Colony includes the play in its repertoire. The Dallas Company have arranged to give three performances of the piece at the Theatre Royal, and the first came off on Thursday night in the presence of a large house. The performance was a great success in every way, the scenery being pretty, the singing good, and the acting excellent.

Miss Evelyne de Worms made a most charming O Mimosa San. She has a beautiful voice which she has well under control, and her vocal contributions were loudly applauded and frequently encored. Miss May Norton made a great hit as Molly Seamore. She sings and dances well and soon became a favourite with the audience. The part of Juliette, the French girl, was well taken by Miss Hetti Peel. Mr. Henry Dallas as Wun-Hi was in his element. He caused roars of laughter, as also did Mr. J. B. Ferrell as the Marquis Imari. The rest of the characters are in good hands, with the result that a really excellent evening's entertainment is provided.

Next week the Dallas Co. will stage *A Run-away Girl*, followed by *The Belle of New York* and *San Toy*.

HONGKONG MISSIONS TO SEAMEN.

Under the auspices of the Hongkong Missions to Seamen a vocal and instrumental concert was given by some of the pupils of Messrs. Alec Marsh and A. G. Ward at the Kowloon Institute on Tuesday evening. There was a large attendance of seamen from the ships in Harbour, as well as a number of townfolk, who thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings, and who marked their appreciation by repeated outbursts of applause. Mr. C. H. P. Hay, in the first item on the programme, sang, "Out on the Deep." In that, as well as in "The Bedouin Love-song" and "The Skipper of St. Ives," he was well received, and fully merited the demand for an encore on each appearance. Miss Ley Kum sang "The Swallows" in the first part, and rendered an "Irish folk song" in the second part. In both efforts her rich contralto voice was heard to advantage, and she readily responded to an enthusiastic recall. Mr. G. P. Lammert rendered "Queen of the Earth" in his usual admirable style, and Miss Chun-yut gave two vocal contributions—"By the River" and "I was dreaming." Both pieces were very nicely sung and were deservedly encored. Mr. E. J. Judah rendered two songs, Mr. P. Dow sang "Meditation," and by special request Mr. Marsh himself gave "The Leather Bottel," and as an encore "The Friar of Orders Grey." A couple of piano-forte duets were contributed by Misses King and Chun-yut, who acquitted themselves so well on each occasion that the audience demanded their re-appearance. At the close a vote of thanks was tendered to those who had contributed

to the evening's entertainment, and it was announced that on Saturday next another concert would be held, to which several naval and military officers had promised support.

This entertainment in aid of the funds of the Kowloon Institute will be held to-night, commencing at 8.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME.

1. Song "All my world" Hope Temple Mrs. Barrett.
2. Song Lieut. Lumb, 3rd M.L.I.
3. Coon Song "The little Yaller Coon" Lieut. Pettit, R.N.
4. Comic Song Lieut. Casserly, 22nd B.I.
5. Banjo Lieut. Melville, 22nd B.I.

To be followed at 9.30 by the comedy in one act entitled *My Lord in Livery*, in which the characters will be:—

Miss Sybil Amberley, daughter of Sir George Amberley, Miss Holmes, Mrs. Barrett, friends of Sybil, Miss I. Holmes, Alfred Spiggott, butler to Sir George Amberley, Capt. Nurse, 22nd B.I., Alfred Hopkins, the new footman, Lieut. Pettit, R.N.

Robert, a page boy Dr. Rowley, R.W.F. Lord Thirlmere, H.M.S. *Phlegelhon*, Capt. Harris, 3rd M.L.I.

Scene: Morning room in Sir George Amberley's house.

God Save the King.

Reserved seats may be obtained on application to Mr. H. S. Holmes or Capt. Harris, Kowloon. The whole of the takings will be given to the Institute.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 23rd March.

EDUCATIONAL REFORM IN KWANGTUNG.

Upon the joint memorial of His Excellency the Viceroy Tao and the Provincial Governor Tak, Imperial sanction has been granted to establish colleges and schools in Kwangtung for the teaching of both foreign tongues and Chinese to the native youth; in the large districts colleges will be established and in the small ones schools, where smart and intelligent students will be admitted and educated, and after a course of study be chosen by examination for Government service. With this aim in view, there will be no literary examination in any of the villages for this year.

It is also purposed to abolish the military examination, as a step towards reform, and instead of teaching shooting with bows and arrows and the handling and lifting of large and heavy swords and blocks of stone, gun and rifle exercises will be substituted.

ONE WAY OF CONDUCTING BUSINESS.

A wheelboat *Chung Wo*, plying between Suni and Kongmun, was attacked by pirates at Hokao, Shuntak district, about the end of last Chinese year, and the Shuntak Magistrate sent his deputy or *weiyuin* to make an examination of the place where the piracy took place, for verification of the facts. On the 6th inst. this worthy deputy took with him a secretary, a number of police, and runners, and proceeded to the locality to make examination, the wheelboat there awaiting him, after which they started on their return trip to Shuntak. The captain of a flower-boat tied his boat with a rope to a rotten stanchion of the wheelboat, and told her Captain to take the flower boat in tow. On the way the stanchion broke, and by force of the waves the flower-boat capsized, throwing her occupants, the mandarin included, into the river. The captain and some of the crew of the wheelboat immediately jumped into the water and succeeded in saving them, with the exception of one runner who was drowned. On his arrival the captain of the wheelboat was arrested, put in prison, and forced to pay indemnity for the life of the runner.

A SUSPECTED PIRATE.

On the 20th inst. a wheelboat left Shuntak district with a cargo of silk for Canton to be delivered to foreign firms in Shameen by native merchants. On her way she saw the steam launch *Fakee* steaming towards and close upon her. An order was shouted to the launch to clear off,

but the latter would not. Suspecting that she was a piratical launch, as is so often the case, the wheelboat opened fire and shot dead a girl on board the launch. The case is under investigation, both parties claiming damages.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 25th March.

AN OUTRAGE VERY DEARLY PAID FOR.

During the late troubles in the village of Shao An, which I communicated to you at the time, one of the native Christians had his eyes pierced out by the mob. As the sufferer of this outrage belongs to the Roman Catholic Mission, the latter instituted a separate claim to the then officiating Shao Ah Shen. It so happened that, after a short lapse of time, another official replaced the acting Shao Ah Shen, and the former was approached about settling the claim. The new official proceeded to the village of Shao An to exact punishment and arrested a few of the suspects, but he had very soon to release them, as the whole clan to which the prisoners belonged set on him and his followers. Seeing that this official was powerless in bringing their demand to a satisfactory end, the Mission appealed to the Foo-chow Viceroy, who despatched one regiment of Fokienese braves, under the command of a prefect, to bring the guilty parties to book and to arrive at a definite settlement. After the usual preliminary *pourparlers* the case was "very satisfactorily" settled. Two houses belonging to the suspected gang were burnt down, two of the villagers who were supposed to have taken part in the disturbances were severely punished, and the Shao Ah Shen in office at present had to pay \$18,000 to the Mission, which sum, however, is to be repaid to him by the non-Christian inhabitants of Shao An.

S.M.S. "SEADLER"

left for Amoy, after having stayed in this port for about three months. During the time they were here, the Commander and the officers made themselves liked by everybody. The band of the *Seadler* played every evening, to the great appreciation of the whole community, and much regret is felt at its absence from our midst. Before leaving the port, athletic sports were arranged for the crew of the *Seadler*, and some very smart feats were performed by them. The sports included a tug-of-war, Swatow v. the *Seadler*, in which the latter were conquerors. Unfortunately one sad accident occurred to one of the crew of the *Seadler*, who, whilst climbing up the greasy pole, slipped and fell to the ground from a height of about 15 feet, whereby he dislocated his arm. Medical assistance was immediately rendered, and I am informed that the sufferer is getting on well.

Mme. Streich, wife of the German Consul, distributed the different prizes, powder articles, to the winners of the various events.

H.I.J.M.S. "TAKAO"

arrived here from Hongkong on Thursday last and left the next day for Amoy.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE SANITARY BOARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 21st March.

SIR,—Your leader of this morning with reference to Dr. Hartigan's resignation from the Sanitary Board is very much to a point, but not to the point, and that is that those who pay the piper should call the tune. All the grumbling in the world will not affect the "official phalanx," but they could be promptly brought to listen to reason, and to understand that they are in reality public servants paid by the public, and to do what they are told to do by the commonsense of most. Some of our good citizens have shown that they have public spirit enough to give valuable time and energy, in no small measure, to the service and welfare of the public; it remains for the public to show if they care enough for their own interests to form

something in the way of a ratepayers' association. A deliberate resolution by such a body that they severally and separately would pay no rates or taxes until their grievances were attended to would even bring the puissant Secretary of State for the Colonies to become aware of the fact that British people live in Hongkong, and the little tin gods who happen to be here would understand. It was remarked once at a public meeting that the greatest want of Hongkong is the want of public spirit, and Dr. Eitel's history of the colony confirms this dictum, but the colony has fresh blood and amongst our later arrivals there may be a village Hampden with the fear of God only before his eyes, to lead us to obtain the same government that our forebears strove and died for when necessary.—Yours, etc.,

WAITING.

[It seems to us that in spite of our correspondent's opening sentence he is really in agreement with us as to the point of the matter, which is that public apathy is largely responsible for the state of affairs.—Ed. D.P.]

AN APPEAL FOR BOOKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
City Hall,
Hongkong, 28th March.

SIR,—Now that the annual exodus of residents is at its height, I venture to beg a corner of your valuable space to appeal for the gift of any books for which intending home-goers have no further use, to the Free Lending Collection of the City Hall Library, which has to rely upon such gifts, as there are no funds available for the purchase of books.

Gifts of bound or unbound books will be welcome and may be sent to the compradore at the Library.

The Lending Library is well patronised and goes some way towards filling a gap in our local institutions.—I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

F. B. L. BOWLEY,
Secretary.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

The eighteenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited, was held on Saturday, 23rd inst., at noon. Mr. R. Shewan presided, and the others present were Messrs. D. Gillies, N. A. Siebs, H. P. White (Consulting Committee), A. Babington, M. Watson, Fung Wa Chuen, and J. McMurtrie (Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, follow the usual custom and take them as read. The figures in the accounts speak for themselves, and indicate that the Company has had a very successful year. Cargo, during the first half of the year especially, was plentiful, and to meet the increased trade, we felt we had to get more tonnage, or else lose our position and hold on the Line to a considerable extent. Fortunately, just at the time we required an extra boat, we were able, as I informed you at the last annual meeting, to buy the *Perle* (late *Menmuir*) on very advantageous terms, and I am glad to report to you that she has proved a most satisfactory vessel for our purposes, and has paid the Company well for the time she has been running. As you are aware, we have contracted for two new steamers of a more modern type, and with rather more cargo capacity, which we hope to have out here towards the beginning of next year. We are sure they will prove a very valuable addition to our line, and enable us to meet the changed condition of the traffic with Manila with more up-to-date vessels. We have been asked by several shareholders why we do not recommend a larger dividend, but the answer to that is "You can't eat your cake and still have it." We have to pay for the two new boats and until that is done you must be satisfied with moderate dividends, although I might add that 10 per cent. is by no means a poor return. Prospects for the year seem to be very fair. Export business from here is good, but on the

other hand, the trade from Manila to this has not improved as we expected. Shipments of hemp and sugar are few and far between, but the circumstances, especially as regards the first-named staple, are peculiar, and I have no doubt that time, the great healer of all our ills, will bring about a change for the better, and that a full cargo from Manila will no longer remain, as at present, a thing of the past. There is nothing I can see in the accounts that requires explanation. I may say that outstanding freight for 1899 is now all collected, as well as the greater part of that outstanding for 1900, and before moving the adoption of the report I shall be pleased to answer any questions that shareholders may wish to put.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as submitted.

Mr. MAXWELL WATSON seconded.

Carried.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN proposed the re-election of the Consulting Committee, Messrs. Shewan, Gillies, Siebs and White.

Mr. BABINGTON seconded.

Carried.

Mr. GILLIES proposed the re-election of Messrs. T. Arnold and Fullarton Henderson as auditors.

Mr. SIEBS seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LTD.

The ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above company was held on Tuesday, the 26th inst. Mr. W. Parfitt presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. Osborne, R. C. Wilcox (Directors), C. Mooney (Secretary), W. H. Gaskell, G. C. Anderson, G. Murray Bain, F. D. Goddard, W. A. Cruickshank, H. C. Wilcox, J. E. Gomes, Ho Kom Tong and Lo Chung Shiu.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: As the report and accounts have been for some days in your hands I will, with your permission, take them as read. It is proposed to pay away \$60,000 in dividend, which is a very large proportion of the sum at credit of the profit and loss account, viz., \$83,698.29. I think it right to say that in proposing such a large division of profits the Directors have been influenced by the action at the last shareholders' meeting of a number of proprietors holding a majority of shares, who required the payment of a dividend in excess of that recommended by the Directors. Recently also certain influential shareholders have intimated to members of the Board that they would require nothing less than a 10 per cent. dividend for the half-year. If any shareholder present should be of opinion that the proposed payment of \$60,000 in dividend is somewhat beyond the bounds of business-like caution, the Directors will be pleased to hear him state his reasons for his belief. It is shown in the report and accounts that a profit of very nearly \$12,000 was made during the half-year on the sale of a small piece of the Praya Reclamation measuring 651 square feet. As this land was cut off from the principal portion of the Reclamation owned by the Hotel Company by the Chater Road, it was not likely to be of use in the future for the Company's business, and the opportunity was taken of selling it at a handsome profit. A change has been made in the form of the account of furniture and fixtures. Formerly this account included such articles as linen, crockery, glass-ware, cutlery, carpets, etc., and to provide for their issue to the various departments of the Hotel certain sums were written off each half-year from the furniture and fixtures account. In order to avoid the risk of not writing off a sufficient sum to cover the heavy wear and tear and loss of the articles I have just enumerated, the Directors transferred them on 1st July last, as the accounts show, to a separate account of their own, and have since then credited that account and debited the Hotel working account direct with the actual cost of each issue. The present furniture and fixture account includes heavy items of household furniture and machinery not mentioned by me

in the foregoing paragraph. I am pleased to say that we are doing a very good business in all departments at the present time. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions which any shareholder present may wish to put. There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. G. MURRAY BAIN—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have much pleasure, after the remarks you have made, in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. E. Osborne was re-elected a director, on the motion of Captain ANDERSON, seconded by Captain GODDARD.

Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and W. H. Gaskell were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. CRUICKSHANK, seconded by Mr. H. C. WILCOX.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you, gentlemen, for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow. That is all the business of the meeting.

Captain GODDARD—I think we should propose a vote of thanks to the Directors and the general manager for the very successful working of the past half-year and the substantial dividend we have received.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK—I have much pleasure in seconding.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you, Capt Goddard and Mr. Cruickshank and gentlemen for your kind vote of thanks. It will be much appreciated.

QUEEN MINES, LIMITED.

The second annual general meeting of shareholders of the above Company was held at the registered offices of the Company, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at noon. Mr. H. Humphreys presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. Ewens, J. A. Jupp, A. H. Mancell, J. A. Tarrant, H. Sutton, (Capt.) Clement, A. P. Nobbs, J. M. Wong, and W. C. Taylor.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, adopt the usual course and take them as read. The accounts speak for themselves and do not, I think, require any explanation from me. You will remember that when we met together last year the Chairman informed you that our only hope seemed to lie in the 205 ft. level south, which was then being driven and which at that time was improving in appearance as we went on; unfortunately the improvement was not maintained, and after a further distance of about 60 feet had been driven the lode cut out altogether. The drive was continued a further 33 feet in the hope of picking up the shaft again, but without success, and work in this level was stopped in the first week in July. About 63 feet was also driven in the 400 feet level north, but as nothing at all payable was met with it was discontinued. On the advice of our manager we then turned our attention to the 142 feet level south as giving the most likely prospect of finding payable stone. A reef was cut varying from 16 inches to 24 inches in width, but although the quartz was of good appearance it yielded badly, a trial crushing of 40 tons made in July gave 7 dwts. to the ton, but as the stone in the drive was then looking poorer driving was discontinued. A further 50 tons from the stopes above the level on being put through the battery in August only yielding 6 dwts. to the ton, we were reluctantly compelled to stop work on 15th September and close down the mine, a suspension of the labour conditions for six months having been obtained as mentioned in the report. The Company's funds being almost exhausted, we do not feel justified in doing any further work on the present prospect of the mine, but before taking any decisive step we propose to wait the result of the sinking of the Eureka Shaft by Oliver's Co. to 500 feet, as in the event of their finding anything good at this depth the 2,000 shares we hold in this company would become much more valuable, and it would materially improve the prospects of our own mine. Besides which we should probably in this event, if it became necessary, be able to dispose of our Battery and Plant at a better

price. We cabled to our Agents in Sydney a few days ago to obtain, if possible, a further suspension of the labour conditions which, if granted, will enable us to wait practically without expense for the result of the Eureka sinking, as we do not propose to make any charge for general management from the end of last year as long as the mine is shut down. If any shareholder has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability.

There being no questions, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. MANCELL, the report and accounts as presented were passed.

Mr. J. A. JUPP—I beg to move that Mr. W. Hutton Potts be elected auditor for the ensuing year.

Capt. CLEMENT—I second it.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED.

The twenty-third ordinary annual meeting of shareholders of the above company was held at the offices of the General Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.) on Wednesday, 27th inst., at noon. The chair was occupied by the Hon. J. J. Keswick, and there were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. D. M. Moses, C. S. Sharp, D. Gillies, R. C. Wilcox (Consulting Committee), J. Barton (Secretary), G. Murray Bain, W. Macgregor Forbes, W. J. Gresson, W. A. Cruickshank, F. Henderson, E. J. Moses, J. C. Peter, Madar, Ho Fook, and Wang Leung Hing.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, we will with your permission follow the usual custom, and take them as read. When addressing you at the last annual meeting I mentioned that, although the results of the year 1899 then under review were disappointing, I did not take by any means a despondent view of the future, and that as we had fortunately acquired a stock of raw sugar at a cost which from indications then existing appeared to be satisfactory, I looked for a fair margin of profit when a revival in demand set in. From the accounts now before you, you will see that my anticipations have been justified, and that the results of last year's working have been satisfactory. This improvement is the more gratifying inasmuch as the period under review has by no means been free from anxiety. You are no doubt aware that since the introduction of refineries into Japan that market, though still a very valuable outlet for our refined sugar, has lost some of the attractions which it formerly possessed, but China shows a steady development. It was with considerable concern that we saw the growing agitation in the North of China during the spring of last year, which paralysed all trade for a time, and culminated in the outbreak of hostilities under circumstances with which you are all familiar. I am pleased to say, however, that as soon as matters settled down the demand for refined sugar began to improve and the average offtake for the year, though smaller than usual, was better than might have been expected. The stock we held in godown at Tientsin escaped any serious damage, but buyers of quantities which had been delivered on credit are not traceable, having possibly been killed during the bombardment or in the interior. A claim for the loss has been put forward against the Chinese Government through the proper channel and an equitable settlement of the matter may I hope be expected. As mentioned in the report before you, the importations of beetroot sugar from Europe continue to compete for trade in eastern markets, but the experience of the past year seems to indicate that in spite of that competition we can still conduct our business at a good margin of profit. I am pleased to be able to say that this is especially the case at the present time, and that we have been well employed since the beginning of the year; we are in a favourable position so far as our stocks of raw sugar are concerned, and the outlook seems satisfactory.

There being no questions, the report and accounts were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. MURRAY BAIN, who observed—I am quite sure that the shareholders will be pleased at the statement which has just been made by the Chairman.

Messrs. Chater, Moses, Sharp, Gillies and Wilcox were re-elected to the Consulting Committee, on the motion of Mr. PETER, seconded by Mr. Ho Fook.

Messrs. T. Arnold and F. Henderson were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. E. J. MOSES, seconded by Mr. WONG LEUNG HING.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen: The dividend warrants will be ready on application at the offices of the general agents to-morrow. That concludes the business. I am much obliged for your attendance.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED.

The nineteenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the offices of the General Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.) on Wednesday, 27th inst., at noon. The chair was occupied by the Hon. J. J. Keswick, and there were also present Messrs. D. Gillies (Consulting Committee), J. Barton (Secretary), W. A. Cruickshank, W. J. Gresson, K. M. Ross, E. J. Benjamin, J. M. de Graça, Ho Fook, Chau Chee Bee, and Lo Cheung Shiu.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts, with your permission, we will consider as read. I regret the accounts, which are submitted to-day for your adoption, show such an unsatisfactory result, but you will remember that, when addressing you at the annual meeting last year, I mentioned that, although we hoped to commence work at the refinery shortly, the future was by no means assured, as the supplies of raw sugar were precarious, and the outlet for refined sugar uncertain. As a matter of fact, we were not able to begin working until the month of May, and although there was a fair local demand for refined sugar during the summer months, the offtake in the Philippines was not large enough to enable the refinery to keep regularly at work for a lengthened period, and during the autumn stocks began to accumulate, and it was decided soon after the beginning of this year to close down pending some larger outlet being found for our refined sugar. You will notice that the result of the year's working has, in one sense, not been unsatisfactory, inasmuch as the sum at debit on 31st December, 1899, has been reduced from \$25,679.41 to \$10,011.88, and if there were any prospects of development in the demand for refined sugar locally, or new markets could be opened up, I should be inclined to take a more sanguine view of the future than is possible under existing circumstances. Unfortunately, however, neither of the above contingencies appears probable in the immediate future, and I fear that the refinery will have to remain closed for an indefinite period. In the meantime, the machinery and buildings will be duly cared for by the engineer in charge, to be ready for any contingency that may arise. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There being no questions, the report and accounts were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. BENJAMIN.

On the motion of Mr. ROSS, seconded by Mr. CRUICKSHANK, Messrs. Gillies and H. P. White were elected Consulting Committee.

Mr. Thomas Arnold was re-elected auditor, on the motion of Mr. de GRACA, seconded by Mr. Ho Fook.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen: That is all the business of the meeting. I am much obliged to you for your attendance.

From July to December last year the Russians took from the Chinese in battle 283 guns. In addition the Chinese inhabitants delivered 92 guns to the Russians either voluntarily or by requisition. Among the 90 guns thus delivered up were five guns taken from the Russians by the Chinese at Albasin 211 years ago.

PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fourth ordinary general meeting to be held at the office of the Company, No. 14, Des Vœux Road Central, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 6th April, at noon:—

The directors have now to submit the statement of accounts and report of the working of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1900.

The work of constructing the new dam is steadily progressing and it is expected that water will be available therefrom by June next. The dam would have been completed before this had not the embankment been partially washed away by a heavy flood in December last.

The machinery and plant at the mines have been overhauled and put in repair, new mortar boxes provided, and the bed logs renewed.

The two shafts which have been sunk by Mr. Hughes, one at South Jalis to a depth of 100 feet, and the other at Mill Gully to a depth of 130 feet, are shortly to be opened out.

Prospecting has been carried on as extensively as possible with the staff at our disposal, and a rich specimen of stone has been brought in from Swah showing gold at all points, and every effort is now being made to find the reef.

It is believed that this part of the Company's concession will open up well in the near future.

The new manager, Mr. Thomas Lester, has arrived at the mines, and, after a tour of inspection, advises that more miners be engaged for the purpose of prospecting; and as this advice accords with the views of the directors, they have wired to the Agents of the Company at Charters Towers to send two miners immediately.

Inasmuch as during the past year, in the absence of water power, little crushing of ore has been done, consequently the returns from winnings of gold have been small, while the cost of the new dam, repairs to machinery, wages, etc., have had to be paid; and, as more funds will be required for the contemplated developments, your directors advised an increase of capital, which, they are pleased to say, was agreed to by the shareholders; and they now hope that with the new manager and increased capital, the result will be satisfactory to all concerned.

Mr. R. C. Wilcox accepted an invitation to join the Board of Directors, and Mr. J. H. Lewis has resigned his seat on the Board, owing to his departure for Europe.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Messrs. D. Gillies, Thomas Howard, and W. Kerfoot Hughes retire from the Board, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, and the Board recommends him for re-election.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1901.

BALANCE SHEET.

31st December, 1900.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.

| | \$ | c. |
|--|--------------|----|
| Authorised capital— | | |
| 60,000 ordinary shares at \$3 | \$480,000.00 | |
| 30,000 preference shares at \$1 | 30,000.00 | |
| | 510,000.00 | |
| Paid-up capital— | | |
| 59,945 ordinary shares at \$3 | \$431,560.00 | |
| 5,558 ordinary shares at \$7 | 38,906.00 | |
| 147 ordinary shares at \$5 (forfeited) | 735.00 | |
| 350 ordinary shares (unallotted) | — | |
| 60,000 | | |
| 30,000 preference shares at \$1 | 30,000.00 | |
| Accounts payable | 501,201.00 | |
| Deposits by employees | 3,445.80 | |
| Pekan agency | 1,333.67 | |
| Mines, suspense account | 115.22 | |
| Unclaimed dividends | 86.46 | |
| | 1,437.77 | |
| | \$517,619.92 | |

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Cost of estate | 157,964.39 |
| Machinery, plant, and equipment | 57,182.04 |
| Cyanide plant | 12,320.27 |
| Development of concession | 8,118.26 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----|
| Main shaft | \$ | c. |
| Main and Klidah dams | 10,000.00 | |
| Buildings | 3,000.00 | |
| Roads and bridges | 15,744.01 | |
| Bullock carts and live stock | 9,046.87 | |
| Furniture at mines | 857.72 | |
| Stores on hand | 1,915.35 | |
| Firewood and timber on hand | 19,987.05 | |
| Cash at mines | 2,264.82 | |
| Merchandise loaned | 3,320.06 | |
| Concentrates on hand and in transit | 167.88 | |
| New dam | 16,410.40 | |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Singapore | 19,473.81 | |
| Accounts receivable | 69.32 | |
| Advances to employees | 1,702.38 | |
| Cash on hand and at bankers | 1,119.76 | |
| Head office furniture | 21,034.46 | |
| Balance of working account | 467.43 | |
| | 145,353.66 | |
| | \$507,619.92 | |

WORKING ACCOUNT.

To 31st December, 1900.

| | \$ | c. |
|--|--------------|----|
| Dr. | | |
| To balance from last account | 72,363.56 | |
| To operations at mines | 39,750.06 | |
| To maintenance of blacksmith's shop | 283.84 | |
| To royalties on gold | 648.03 | |
| To prospecting | 5,150.23 | |
| To Pangong office expenses | 1,776.73 | |
| To general expenses at mines | 18,831.24 | |
| To concentrates | 3,685.68 | |
| To firewood and timber | 2,600.00 | |
| To salaries, wages and head office charges | 5,849.61 | |
| To insurance | 412.98 | |
| To exchange account | 761.28 | |
| To telegram account | 231.95 | |
| To agency fees | 2,460.00 | |
| To directors' and auditor's fees | 2,650.00 | |
| | \$157,496.82 | |

| | \$ | c. |
|------------------------------|--------------|----|
| Cr. | | |
| By proceeds of gold winnings | 5,389.52 | |
| By concentrates produced | 5,438.42 | |
| By interest | 673.42 | |
| By transfer fees | 87.90 | |
| By sundry revenue | 435.84 | |
| By fines | 118.06 | |
| By balance | 145,353.66 | |
| | \$157,496.82 | |

SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the revised report of directors presented at the twelfth annual meeting of shareholders, held at Shanghai, on the 13th inst.:

In presenting their twelfth annual report and a statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1900, the directors congratulate the shareholders on the satisfactory results attained, considering the trying times that the settlement passed through during the last summer.

The working account for the year shows a credit balance of Taels 162,818.33 as compared with Taels 153,283.06 last year.

After deducting the amount of the interim dividend paid in July, there remains a sum of Taels 101,386.03 at the credit of profit and loss account, and it is proposed by the directors to appropriate this sum as follows:—

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| To pay a final dividend of 6½ per cent. on the capital (making 12 per cent. for the year) | Taels 84,500.00 |
| To transfer to reserve fund (being interest on undeveloped estates Nos. 8 and 9) | 6,974.82 |
| To carry forward to new account | 9,911.21 |

DEBENTURES.

The issue of Tls. 250,000, referred to in last report, has now been completed.

CAPITAL.

Owing to the increasing operations of the Company, the directors think the time has arrived when a larger capital is required. They intend to propose at a special meeting, for the approval of shareholders, that Tls. 650,000, in shares of Tls. 50 fully paid, be issued, and that these 13,000 shares be offered to shareholders at par in the ratio of one share for every two held in the Company.

CHWONG HOONG ESTATE NO. 2.

The houses nearing completion when the last report was issued have been completed and have all found tenants at satisfactory rentals. It is proposed to erect two more houses, and subject to tenders for building, tenants have been secured.

JINKEE ESTATE NO. 6.

The development of this estate continues. So far, and as fast as buildings are completed

they are satisfactorily leased. The directors have considered it expedient to repurchase the Bund portion of this estate, finding that it can be utilised profitably in connection with the rest of the property.

ESTATES NOS. 8 AND 9.

There is nothing new to report regarding these estates, the time having not yet arrived when development might be taken successfully in hand.

The other estates do not call for any comment.

NEW ESTATE.

A property on Broadway, in the Northern district, known on the old plan of Hongkew as Cadastral Lot 1,165, was purchased by the directors in January at a price which they consider moderate, and they hope within a year or two to build on it to advantage. This estate will be known in future as "Broadway Estate No. 10."

DIRECTORS.

On Mr. Kinnear's departure for England, Mr. Wood was invited to take his place on the Board. Mr. Kinnear returned at the beginning of the year, and, on Mr. Wood's departure shortly after, he was asked to resume his seat. Mr. Young retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. Wingrove retires, but will serve again, if re-elected.

E. JENNER HOGG,
Chairman.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 22nd March.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE WANCHAI MURDER CASE.

A widow named Wong Po, residing at 143, Queen's Road East, Wanchai, was charged with the wilful murder of a man named Kwong Cheung, of the same address, formerly a messenger in connection with the Supreme Court, on the 5th February.

The prisoner, for whom Mr. E. H. Sharp appeared, pleaded not guilty.

The following composed the jury:—Messrs. P. A. Cox, John Galbraith, Wan Ki Mei, George Hunter, F. A. C. Bahn, George Patton, and Gustave Meyer.

The hearing of the case for the prosecution was resumed.

George Hogarth, an inspector in the employ of the Sanitary Board, said he remembered going to the house 143, Queen's Road East, at about 10.45 on the morning of the 5th February. He went in because he saw a crowd of Chinese in front of the house and saw the prisoner on the verandah and heard her shouting out "Save life!" and "Injure" in Chinese. He understood Chinese. He went upstairs, and on the landing of the first floor found a Chinaman (whom he identified as U Yeung) knocking at the door and calling on the person inside to open it. He gave way to witness, who called upon the person inside to open to door. He spoke in Chinese. The door was opened from the inside by the prisoner. He entered the room and the prisoner informed him that six thieves had entered the house and beaten her and stolen money. She then said they had killed her man, and when he asked "Where," she pointed to the second cubicle. He went into the cubicle, and on pulling back the mosquito curtain saw a Chinaman laid on the bed. He took hold of his right arm and felt his pulse and found that he was dead. The body was lying slantways across the bed with the legs hanging over, and was partly on the left side but more inclined to the back. The body was warm, but there was nothing particular to indicate to him how long the man had been dead. The prisoner said to him in Chinese, "Official police, take care of me." After this the deceased's wife came in and had a quarrel with the prisoner. The old woman said the prisoner had prevented her husband from going to work.

Monday, 25th March.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE WANCHAI MURDER CASE.

A widow named Wong Po, residing at 143, Queen's Road East, Wanchai, was charged with the wilful murder of a man named Kwong Cheung, of the same address, formerly a messenger in connection with the Supreme Court, on the 5th February.

The following composed the jury:—Messrs. P. A. Cox, John Galbraith, Wan Ki Mei, George Hunter, F. A. C. Hahn, George Patton, and Gustave Meyer.

The case for the prosecution being concluded, Mr. Sharp addressed the jury for the defence.

He said there was no doubt a murder had been committed, and there seemed to him to be no doubt that it was a murder of a particularly dastardly character. The only question the jury had to consider was, Who did it? There were no doubt circumstances of suspicion against the prisoner. It was perfectly clear that so far as the usual inmates of this house were concerned the prisoner was the only person in the house besides the deceased. This was a circumstance of suspicion against the prisoner, but he should have to read to the jury a few authorities out of an enormous bulk to show that there was nothing more dangerous in dealing with cases of this character than to rely upon what was called circumstantial or presumptive evidence.

This was a typical case of the most dangerous kind of circumstantial or presumptive evidence. Circumstantial or presumptive evidence was evidence which did not purport to prove directly, as the evidence of an eye-witness did, that the person charged committed the crime, but it purported to raise the presumption or inference, of a greater or lesser probability, that the person charged did commit the crime. More miscarriages of justice had been due to reliance upon circumstantial evidence than from any other cause. Frequently circumstantial evidence had been relied upon and produced a miscarriage of justice when the evidence was even stronger than in that case. The principle always to be applied in cases of circumstantial evidence was this: Were the facts proved inconsistent with the story told by the prisoner? He contended that the facts proved in this case were wholly consistent with the innocence of the prisoner. The prisoner's story as told to the police and others was consistent from beginning to end. He submitted that if the story had been fabricated upon the instant discrepancies and inconsistencies would have crept in. The prisoner's story was that a number of men—six men the prisoner spoke of throughout—entered the house for the purpose of robbing either the prisoner or the deceased or both, perhaps at the instigation of the wife, who was jealous of both the prisoner and the deceased. He did not for a moment suggest that the wife instigated the murder. He merely suggested that these men were instigated to robbery only, and that this robbery accidentally led to the murder. The prisoner said that when she saw the first of these men she called out, and the prisoner replied and came from the next room to her help and was murdered by thieves—as, he suggested, without premeditation on their part. The thieves then fled, alarmed at what they had done and the terrible consequences which would ensue to themselves if caught and no doubt alarmed by the noise and commotion which had arisen. The prisoner, immediately or very shortly after the murder, recovering from her fright, got up and went to the door and opened it. It was perfectly clear that if the thieves were not instigated by the wife they were familiar with the ways of the house and probably with the relations existing between the dead man and his wife and the prisoner. Learned Counsel then proceeded to point out the motives which the wife had for animosity against the deceased and the prisoner, commented upon the different points brought out by the evidence for the prosecution, and quoted several authorities as to the law with regard to circumstantial or presumptive evidence. Concluding, Mr. Sharp said the question for the jury was, had the prosecution proved this charge against the prisoner

Then the prisoner spoke to her about the thieves coming into the house and stealing her money and killing her man. The old woman then went into the cubicle where the dead body was lying, and after she had seen the body she commenced to cry. When he first entered the room the prisoner was very pale and looked very wild, her eyes glaring. After seeing the body the old woman went down-stairs and returned with a bundle of clothes. On her return she had another quarrel with the prisoner. The latter said, "Do not take any notice of her, she is a bad woman; she has a black heart and has threatened to do me an injury." The prisoner said the deceased man was on the bed by the window, and that on her calling out for help the deceased had come into her room to her help; that while she was in the room the thieves covered up her face and stole her money. He remained in the room until Inspector Ford came.

In reply to Mr. Sharp, the witness said he did not know that the man had been stabbed until the police came and removed the body. From the way the body lay the man might have been stabbed while standing by the bed-side and fallen backwards. When he was in the room the prisoner told him the same story throughout—that the thieves had beaten her, stolen the money, and killed her man.

In reply to his Lordship, the witness said he saw no signs of a struggle having taken place in the cubicle. The prisoner seemed frightened and excited but did not seem to show any grief in consequence of the death of the deceased. At that time he accepted the prisoner's statement about the robbers.

Inspector Ford, of the Hongkong Police Force and in charge of the Eastern District, said that on the morning of the 5th February, at about 10 past 11, he received certain information with regard to 143, Queen's Road East, in consequence of which he visited the first floor of the address given. On going into the second cubicle he saw the body of a Chinaman. He was lying on his back across the bed slightly inclined to the left, his head being over on the left side, and the legs from just above the knee hanging over the side of the bed. He examined the body and found two wounds on the chest and two slight wounds on the right hand. He then had the body removed into the first cubicle and undressed it, taking off a blue singlet which was next to the skin. In the singlet were two holes corresponding with the wounds in the chest. There were also corresponding holes in a blue cotton vest. There was blood on these garments. The deceased was also wearing a pair of blue cotton trousers. On taking off the trousers he discovered a wound in the abdomen. The trousers were kept up by a girdle and wallet. There was no cut in the trousers to correspond with the wound in the abdomen.

Evidence was also given by Inspector Collett and Sergt. Watt as to an inspection made by them of the premises at No. 143, Queen's Road East.

Dr. J. C. Thomson, who made a post-mortem examination of the body of the deceased on the 6th February last, said there were two wounds on the chest and one on the abdomen, each about an inch and a half in length. The first wound was between the second and third ribs on the right side and entered the right lung. It was about three inches deep. The second wound was between the fourth and fifth ribs on the right side and passed through the right lung and wounded the liver. It was about four inches in depth. The third wound was in the lower right-hand part of the abdomen. This had passed down along the bone and injured no structure of any importance. There was a cut across the knuckles of the right hand, chiefly over the last finger, and there was a bruise made by a blunt instrument on the right side of the forehead. There were several small bruises around the lips. The right side of the chest was full of blood. He was of opinion that the cause of death was hæmorrhage from the right lung and liver due to the wounds on the chest. The blow on the right side of the forehead would, he should say, be sufficient to stun the man. The knife produced could have inflicted the injuries he had indicated.

Other evidence followed, and the hearing was further adjourned.

beyond all reasonable doubt and shown that the facts proved were not only consistent with possible guilt but inconsistent with the innocence of the prisoner. He submitted that the prosecution had not done this. The case for the prosecution was beset with doubts. The prisoner's story practically explained all the facts. The prisoner's story was a reasonable one, and applied to the facts he thought it practically explained them all, whereas the case for the prosecution was beset with difficulties from beginning to end.

It was a quarter to three in the afternoon when the learned counsel for the defence concluded his address.

The Attorney-General replied. He discounted the robber theory, arguing that it was not likely that robbers would have left untouched the money in the deceased man's girdle and his watch and chain.

His Lordship then summed up.

It was half-past five when the jury retired to consider their verdict.

They returned at twenty minutes to six, and in response to the Clerk (Mr. J. W. Jones) the Foreman of the jury (Mr. Cox) said that the jury were unanimously of opinion that the prisoner was guilty.

On being asked if she had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed on her, the prisoner made a statement almost identical with those made by her in the charge room at the Police Station and at the Magistracy.

His Lordship, assuming the black cap, said—Wong Po, you have been found guilty of the murder with which you are charged. As far as I understand the evidence I think it goes clearly to show that the verdict of the jury is a right verdict. I believe you cruelly and treacherously took the life of this man and then concocted this story to shield yourself. The sentence of the Court upon you is that you be taken hence to the place from whence you came, and thence to the place of execution, and that you be there hanged by the neck until you be dead, and that your body be buried in such place as His Excellency the Governor shall order. And may the Lord have mercy on your soul!

Tuesday, 26th March.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

THE ARMED ROBBERY AT KOWLOON CITY.

The Luk, Ko Wing, Sang and Lai Fun were charged with being concerned in an armed robbery at Kowloon City on the 23rd February. There were three counts in the indictment, viz., (1) larceny in a dwelling-house with menaces; (2) receiving stolen goods; (3) robbery being armed.

The prisoners pleaded not guilty.

The following composed the jury:—Messrs. Hugo Albrecht, V. A. de Paulo Collaço, S. Weinberg, A. H. Hamet, D. E. de Souza, J. A. Tarrant, and J. M. do Rozario Xavier.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, at the request of the Attorney-General, stated the case for the prosecution. He said the scene of the robbery was a grocer's shop in Kowloon City called the Yee Sing. The accountant and staff appeared to live on the premises, but the master did not do so regularly. On the 23rd February, about six o'clock in the evening, the master left the shop, leaving the accountant and three or four foks behind. At about five past seven, when it was quite dark, a gang of seven men entered the shop, and having shut the door they seized the accountant and the foks by the queues, bound them together, and took them to the back part of the shop, into a little room called the samshu room. Two of the gang, who would be identified as the first and third prisoners, stood over them with revolvers, threatening to shoot them if they made a noise, while the others cleared out the shop. They took \$150, which was in 10 and 20 cent pieces, from a pillow box, and having taken the key to the safe from the accountant they took from the safe \$2,350. Of this sum \$250 was in notes, \$250 in single silver dollars, and the rest in 10 and 20 cent pieces. The reason why there was so much money in the safe was that

it being about Chinese New Year time the master had been going backwards and forwards to Hongkong collecting money for a shop near Canton in which he was interested called the Yik Cheung. As the men were leaving the shop the master caught sight of them as he was returning. He instantly gave the alarm. He sent a neighbour to the Police Station, and on going into the shop found his accountant and foks had been bound but had relieved themselves. About two hours later the first and third prisoners were arrested not very far away on the Kowloon Road. A certain amount of money was found upon one of them. Two days after this the third prisoner was arrested in a brothel in Yaumati, a certain amount of money being found upon him also. On the same day the three men were placed in a row with others at the Central Police Station and identified by several witnesses as being members of the gang who committed the robbery.

The jury unanimously found the prisoners guilty on the first and third counts, the second being withdrawn.

His Lordship sentenced each to seven years with hard labour and 20 strokes with the birch.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

H. PRICE AND CO. V. LUM SIN SANG.

His Lordship heard counsel on the points of law in the original suit by H. Price and Co., wine merchants, Queen's Road Central, against Lum Sin Sang, residing at Macao, the landlord of the premises occupied by the plaintiffs. It will be remembered that a special jury returned a verdict on the facts of the case in favour of the plaintiff.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared again for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) for the defendant.

Thursday, 28th March.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AU TO HANG APPELLANT V. WILLIAM BOND RESPONDENT.

At the Magistracy on the 17th February, Au To Hang was fined \$100, or two months, for "unlawfully infringing the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General by conveying letters in the colony otherwise than through the General Post Office on the 17th February at Victoria in this colony." This decision was appealed against. The appeal was a double one—first, a motion that the case might be reheard before the Full Court, on the ground that the conviction of the defendant was against the weight of evidence; and second, appeal on points of law, the substantial question being whether the onus of proving that the letters in question were exempt lay upon the prosecution or upon the defence. Ordinance 24 of 1900 forbids the conveyance of letters in the colony otherwise than by post unless such letters are exempted, the letters which are exempted being specified in section seven.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. C. Ewens) appeared for the appellant, and the Attorney-General (instructed by Messrs. Dennys and Bowley, Crown Solicitors) for the respondent.

Mr. Pollock said this was an appeal from the decision of Mr. Kemp, Acting Police Magistrate, and was brought upon questions of law as well as of fact. His Lordship would have noted from the depositions that the appellant was a messenger employed by the comrade of the steamship *Tai On*, and that part of his duties as such messenger was to deliver letters in this colony. At the Magistracy the following evidence was given by P. C. William Bond:—"At about 7.30 a.m. on the 17th February, I was on duty in Queen's Road. I saw the defendant deliver a letter at No. 2, D'Aguilar Street. He said it came from Canton. He had some other letters up his sleeve and a book

in his pocket. I arrested him and took him to the Central Police Station." On being cross-examined, Bond said:—"The defendant willingly gave all information at the Station." The only other evidence in the case was the evidence of the third clerk at the Magistracy, who was called to translate, so far as he could, the addresses on the envelopes of the letters which were found on the appellant, and after he had given evidence the case for the prosecution at the Police Court was closed. At that stage Mr. Harston, who appeared for the appellant in the Court below, submitted that there was no evidence to go on with. The Magistrate held that the onus lay upon the appellant to prove that he came within some exception recognised by the Ordinance. He (Mr. Pollock), however, laid stress on certain cases in which it was decided that in former days the burden lay upon the prosecution.

The Attorney-General, on the other hand, called attention to the provisions of section 28 of the Magistrate's Ordinance of 1890, which provided that exceptions, exemptions, etc., must be proved by the defendant and need not be specified or negatived in the information or proved by the prosecution if specified. He pointed out that this provision was the same as that in the Summary Jurisdiction Act of 1878 and of the Licensing Act of 1872. He further pointed out that the case of *Roberts v. Humphries* (8 Q.B. reports, page 413), decided under the more recent law, overruled in effect the decisions quoted by Mr. Pollock.

His Lordship held that the Magistrate took the right view of the law—that the onus lay on the appellant to bring himself within the exception recognised by the Ordinance. The other points submitted to the Court were also decided in the respondent's favour, the result being that the decision of the magistrate was affirmed and the appeal dismissed with costs.

APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES.

MEETING OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

A meeting of Justices of the Peace was held in the small court-room at the Magistracy on the 27th inst. to consider four applications in connection with licences for the sale of liquor. Mr. F. A. Hazeland (Acting Police Magistrate) presided, and there were Mr. E. W. Mitchell, Mr. J. H. Kemp, Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, and Messrs. H. Gedge and E. J. Grist, solicitors.

The first application considered was one from Rustomjee Cowasjee Bamjee, for permission to remove his licensed publican's business from houses Nos. 148 and 150, Queen's Road Central, to house No. 142, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of the "Stag Hotel."

The licence was unanimously granted on the applicant undertaking to effect the structural alterations required by the Medical Officer of Health.

The second application was that by Isidor Silberman, for the transfer of his publican's licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situated at No. 184, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of "The Globe Hotel," to one William Goulburn. Mr. Gedge appeared for the applicant.

The Chairman, speaking with reference to the structural requirements of the place, said he had been informed that the erection of urinals therein had been delayed until the arrival of cisterns from Europe. He would like Mr. Gedge's assurance that the work would go on when the cisterns arrived.

Mr. Gedge gave the required assurance, and the application was granted.

The third application was from Ernest Puklmann, for a publican's licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situated at houses Nos. 177 and 179, Queen's Road East, under the sign of the "Wanchai Hotel."

Mr. Grist represented the applicant. He was proceeding to speak with regard to his client's character, when the Chairman interrupted to say that it was not so much a question of character as whether it was desirable to have a public-house in that part of the town. Besides, there was a licensed hotel a matter of only a hundred and fifty yards away—the Praya East Hotel.

After further remarks from Mr. Grist, who then retired pending consideration of the matter, the application was unanimously refused.

The fourth application was by Esther Oliver, for permission to remove her licensed publican's business from Nos. 12 and 13, Queen Victoria Street, to No. 100, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of "The Travellers' Hotel." Mr. Grist, for the licensee, said the present premises were not so suitable as those to which it was asked permission to remove.

The application was refused on the ground that it was inadvisable to have a public-house facing Queen's Road farther east than the Fire Brigade Station.

FOOTBALL.

SIEGE TRAIN WINS THE SHIELD.

The final for the Shield was played on the 23rd inst., when the 15th Company (Siege Train), S.D., R.G.A., met H Company, R.W.F. The heavy rain in the earlier part of the day had softened the ground considerably, and this, besides making it rather difficult to keep the feet—as was seen during the progress of the game—tended to make the ball greasy. The Shield, carried in a ricksha, was on view previous to the start of the game, and was much admired. Though the match was not timed to start till half-past four, both teams were on the ground and stripped by four o'clock, by which time hundreds of spectators lined the ropes. The stand was completely filled, and contained, amongst others, H.E. the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.) and, later, H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G. The unanimous opinion was that the two best teams had met, and although the Siege Train were strong favourites, a close game was looked for, especially as it was known that the men had been training hard. The players were cheered as they entered the field, all looking in the pink of condition. Mr. J. A. Ross officiated as referee, and his call of time saw the following line up:—

Siege Train:—Goal—Field (captain); backs—Moorhouse and O'Brien; half-backs—Harman, Nicol, and Suttie; forwards—Gettings, Cleeve, Phinn, Blair, and Bond.

R.W.F.:—Goal—Johnson; backs—Smart and Edwards; half-backs—Roberts, Stafford, and Sweete; forwards—Edwards, Gelshon, Shields (captain), Dobbs, and Walters.

Exactly at half-past four, Shields set the ball in motion for the Fusiliers, who faced the west goal. He gave the pass to Gelshon, who sprinted, and at the right moment relinquished in favour of Edwards, on the outside of the wing. A combined dash was then made up the field, but a neat shot for centre was capitally stopped by Moorhouse, who returned the ball to mid-field. Stafford recaptured, and gave the Fusiliers' right wing another chance. Going through the same tactics, the ball was eventually sent right across the field and played by Dobbs. O'Brien challenged him, but was forced to concede a corner, which Walters took. The ball was placed rather far out, and in their eagerness to get it up to Field, the Fusiliers gave away a foul by an illegal charge. Moorhouse took the kick, and centred. The Siege Train forward, with plenty of room to work, now gave the Fusilier defences something to do. The halves were easily negotiated, but Smart stopped a dangerous rush by centring. Following play in mid field, the Siege Train got a throw-in on their left wing, and again their forwards tracked for goal. Smart once more proved too much for them, however, and sent them to the right about. Now thoroughly warmed to their work, the Siege Train continued to press, but were for the moment effectually turned by a free kick for offside against Gettings. This player took charge after the ball left Edwards' feet, and headed to Phinn. The latter fairly wobbled Stafford, and shot just as Smart made for him. The ball was a swift one, and evaded Johnson, dropping plump into the corner of the net, the scoring being opened five minutes from the start. From the centre-kick play was again transferred to Fusilier territory, but the pressure was relieved by Roberts, right half, who centred. The Fusiliers' forwards lost no time in covering ground, but their shot found the back of the net. Another foul against

the Fusiliers for an illegal charge gave Gettings his opportunity, and a splendid run carried him past the halves and up to Edwards, whom he managed to outwit. Gettings was just on the point of shooting when Smart saved the situation by doing the only thing possible—giving a corner. Harman placed it beautifully and things were looking very black for the Fusiliers—who had previously been stopped by Moorhouse in an attempt to clear their goal, when the leather was sent to the outside of the post. Edwards took charge from the goal kick, and after a hard run up the wing made a plucky attempt to equalise. The rate at which he was going, however, made true shooting improbable, and the ball went wide. Both teams were now going at it "hammer and tongs," and treating the spectators to the fastest and best game of the entire season. The Siege Train, however, held the upper hand, and now that they had had the chance to weigh up their opponents, knew exactly what to do and how to do it. They were playing well above form, and their passes seldom went wrong. Never in a hurry to shoot, their forward line was strongly carried along, supported splendidly by the halves and backs. The Fusiliers, on the other hand, though undoubtedly possessing such form as to make them at times dangerous, played rather as individuals striving to wipe off defeat than as a combination able to attain that end. Fifteen minutes from the start the Siege Train had three goals to their credit, two by Phinn and one by Gettings. Eight minutes later Phinn sent in the fourth, and the game had been in progress only two minutes more when Moorhouse, from a penalty kick at the Fusiliers goal—given because Johnson kicked Bond—recorded the fifth goal. With a practically undefeatable score of five goals in twenty-five minutes, the Siege Train were able to rest on their oars till the referee's call of half-time, when, determined to leave nothing to chance, every man in the team went to the pavilion for a rub-down, the Fusiliers remaining on the field.

Crossing over, the Fusiliers, as at the start of the game, made the first invasion, Walters with the ball. Sent again into centre, Bond took charge of the leather from a pass, and put the Fusiliers on the defensive. A tussle on the wing resulted in a corner for the Siege Train, which was not converted—providing, in fact, an opening for the Fusiliers to clear their ground. Moorhouse brought them up sharp, and from centre play Gettings took charge. Slipping, he gave a faulty pass to Cleeve, which was intercepted by Sweete. The latter was tackled on the wing, and the ball sent out of boundary. The Fusiliers took the throw-in and played the ball right across the field, where they had another throw-in near the Siege Train's right corner flag. This slight advantage was not improved upon, and the field again converged towards Johnson, Bond in charge of the ball. In a futile attempt to turn the advance, the Fusiliers again conceded one of the many corners already given away by them. Exciting play at goal followed, but luck was with the Fusiliers, a good try by Gettings just topping the net. Another in the long series of attacks by the Siege Train immediately afterwards found its relief by a free kick for the Fusiliers, one of the opposing eleven having been offside. This only staved off for a space the persistent advance of the Siege Train, who, though meeting with much sterner opposition than in the first half, still held the field. An illegal charge in their own ground cost the Fusiliers a free kick, but further disaster was averted by a hard shot going to the outside of the post. The Siege Train now pulled up slightly, but warily guarded their own ground, at the same time losing no opportunity to increase their already heavy score. So effectual had been their play that not once up to this point did Field handle the ball in defence of his charge. Stafford, the Fusiliers' centre-half, was playing well, but could not get the ball up to the forwards, and had finally to leave to Sweete the task of sending it out. Phinn recaptured, and again carried his line up. In a scrimmage with the backs, Blair received an injury that caused him temporarily to leave the field, although he pluckily tried at first to continue play. The Fusiliers, still playing gamely, made an incur-

sion into their opponents' half, but although their forwards got behind Moorhouse and O'Brien, nothing tangible accrued, Field simply taking the man and allowing the ball to run out of play. With the evident intention of reducing their defeat, the Fusiliers were playing a very fast game, but they lost a good opening in an invasion of Field's post by Edwards, outside right, accidentally striking the ball with his hand as he was preparing to shoot. Forced twice to play the ball towards their own goal, the Siege Train again settled down to play, and the earlier phases of the game were repeated. Johnson, at the expense of a corner, saved a good shot from Phinn, who got the pass from Cleeve. Blair almost succeeded in converting the corner, the ball just grazing the post. Gettings took charge from the goal kick, and, with only about five minutes to go, the Siege Train forwards made a last grand rush, carrying all before them. Gettings gave Cleeve the ball, and the latter kicked in. The shot was not really dangerous, but Johnson let it go through, and thus the sixth goal was won. Fast play on the part of the Fusiliers continued, and they were in Siege Train territory when the whistle sounded.

Result:—Siege Train, 6; H Company, 0.

At the conclusion of the game Mrs. Lockhart, wife of the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary), presented the Shield and gold badges to the Siege Train eleven, who hold the trophy for the year. The badges, neat little ornaments in the shape of a shield, bear the inscription—"Hongkong Football Competition, 1901."

SPORTS.

BENGAL LANCERS.

The sports of the Bengal Lancers were held on the 26th inst. at Causeway Bay, on the Polo Ground, before a large gathering, which included H. E. the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.), H. E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops), and Sir John Carrington, C.M.G. The band of the 3rd Madras Light Infantry was in attendance, and discoursed pleasing selections throughout the afternoon. The sports included such events as tent-pegging, slicing the orange, trick riding, lance and sword exercise, mounted combats, etc.

Appended are the names of the successful competitors: (1) Time-cutting.—1, Lance-Duffadar Buksh Khan; 2, Sowar Gholan Mustafa Khan; 3, Sowar Hussan Mahomed Khan. (2) Tent-pegging.—1, Duffadar Iman Ali Khan; 2, Lance-Duffadar Bhikan Khan; 3, Sowar Abdul Ghani Khan. (3) Squadron Tent-pegging.—1, "D" Squadron (1st B.L.); 2, Remount Department. (4) Native Officers' tent-pegging.—1, "Ressaidar and Woordie Major" Mahomed Ka Sham Sham. (5) V.C. race.—1, "B" Squadron (1st B.L.) (6) Catching brigand.—1, Captain Turner, 13th B.L. (7) V.C. race (open).—1, Captain Turner, 13th B.L. (8) Tent-pegging (open).—1, Captain Loring, R.G.A. (9) Ladies' nomination.—1, Captain Goodwyn, for Miss St. John. (10) Mounted combat.—1, Sowar Nazir Mahomed Khan; 2, Sowar Abdur Rahman Khan. We are indebted to Lieut. Russel, 1st Bengal Lancers for the foregoing particulars, no printed programme having been issued.

HONGKONG SCHOOLS.

Bright weather favoured the annual athletic sports of the Hongkong Schools on the Race-course at Happy Valley on Thursday afternoon. The number of spectators was large, but hardly up to that of preceding years. The programme, which was timed to begin at one o'clock and to finish at five, included together twenty-six events, many of which were admirably contested and quite exciting in their finishes. An additional treat was imparted to a capital day's entertainment by the presence of the band of the 3rd Madras Light Infantry, which played at intervals throughout the afternoon. Appended is the list of prize-winners:—

1.—Long jump (for boys up to 16 years of age).—1, F. Mootce; 2, J. A. Yoanovich; 3, C. Humphreys.

2.—100 yards flat race (handicap: for boys from 10 to 13 years of age).—1, Chan Yau-cheong; 2, Pang Sai-ngok; 3, C. Peres.

3.—100 yards flat race (handicap: for boys from 7 to 10 years of age).—1, J. M. Barrados; 2, N. L. Rocha; 3, S. Vital.

4.—100 yards flat race (handicap: for boys from 13 to 16 years of age).—1, J. Rivera; 2, R. M. Castro; 3, A. J. Ribeiro.

5.—One mile bicycle race (handicap: all ages).—1, C. Humphreys; 2, J. Barros (scratch); 3, F. Drude.

6. High jump (for boys from 15 to 18 years of age).—1, J. Lawrence; 2, C. C. de Carvalho. Distance, 4ft. 8in.

7. 220 yards flat race (handicap: open to all ages).—1, D. Ramjahn; 2, A. J. V. Ribeiro; 3, R. M. Costa.

8. 120 yards hurdle race (handicap: ten flights of 3ft. 6in. hurdles: for boys from 13 to 17 years of age).—1, J. C. Botelho; 2, A. J. Ribeiro; 3, A. H. Carrol.

9. High jump (for boys from 10 to 15 years of age).—1, F. Drude; 2, Lum-Fook.

10. 10 yards flat race (handicap: for girls under 10 years of age).—1, W. Meugens; 2, A. Lee.

11. 100 yards flat race (handicap: for girls over 10 years of age).—1, E. Monfung; 2, L. Silas; 3, I. Noma.

12. Quarter-mile race (handicap: open to all ages).—1, A. J. V. Ribeiro; 2, J. Lawrence; 3, D. Ramjahn.

13. 220 yards flat race (handicap: for boys from 7 to 10 years of age).—1, J. M. Barrados; 2, A. M. Suffiad; 3, F. D. Guedes.

14. Throwing the cricket ball (open to all ages).—1, D. Ramjahn; 2, J. Martinez.

15. Half-mile challenge cup (for boys from 14 to 18 years of age).—1, A. R. Kadar; 2, E. Humphreys. The Cup having been won outright last year and the donor having gone home, the winner this year was awarded a medallion.

16. Skipping race (open to girls only).—1, Annie Lesbirel; 2, R. Silas; 3, D. Chunyut.

17. 50 yards flat race (handicap: for all comers under 7 years of age).—1, White and H. Castro (dead-heat); 2, A. Matthews; 3, Ah Yuen.

18. 300 yards flat race (for Chinese boys over 15 years of age).—1, Chan Yau; 2, Ho Sik Lung.

19. 600 yards flat race (handicap: for boys from 13 to 16 years of age).—1, A. Rahim; 2, R. M. Costa; 3, S. Gafni.

20. Seven furlong flat race (handicap: open to past pupils only).—1, J. H. Witchell; 2, F. E. Ellis.

21. 100 yards three-legged race (open to all ages).—1, E. Humphreys and D. Ramjahn; 2, A. J. V. Ribeiro and J. A. Yoanovitch.

22. 200 yards menagerie race (leading dogs).—1, A. J. Ribeiro; 2, Chan Yau; 3, J. Barros.

23. 300 yards flat race (Chinese boys under 15 years of age).—1, Lam Fuk; 2, Hung Yu Kwong.

24. 100 yards egg-and-spoon race (open to all ages).—1, J. Lawrence; 2, J. C. Botelho; 3, J. Barros.

25. Two mile bicycle race (handicap: open to past pupils only).—1, A. E. Alves; 2, C. Humphreys.

26. Race open to the Garrison.—1, Private Andrews (band, R.W.F.); 2, Thaker Mahn; 3, Corporal Eynott (R.W.F.)

27. Indians' race.—1, Mar Mahman; 2, Run-jobibe.

28. Sailors' race.—1, L. Morgan; 2, M. O'Mahony; 3, F. Sponder (all of H.M.S. Centurion).

Sir John Carrington, C.M.G., presented the prizes, previous to which he delivered a short address. He said it afforded him great pleasure to see boys of different nationalities striving together in friendly rivalry. Athletic exercise was an excellent thing, but although a great admirer of that exercise, he was of opinion that too much attention should not be paid to it, at least, not to the sacrifice of the mind and spirit. Matthew Arnold, the distinguished poet, who thought that too much consideration and attention were devoted to athletics and sports, once said at Oxford—"There are our young barbarians all a play." Sir John concluded by addressing a few remarks to the unsuccessful competitors, whom he told to exercise patience and await the reward perseverance would bring.

The prizes were then given out, and a pleasant afternoon was brought to a close by three rousing cheers for Sir John Carrington.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

To-day there will be a race for yachts in the Championship Class, to be steered by ladies, for a prize presented by the Commodore. The handicap will be:—

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| <i>Alannah</i> | allows |
| <i>Bonito</i> | 30 secs. |
| <i>Iris</i> | 1 min. |
| <i>Erica</i> | 2 " |
| <i>Chanticleer</i> | 2 " |
| <i>Maid Marian</i> | 2 " |
| <i>Gloria</i> | 3 " |
| <i>Doreen</i> | 3 " |
| <i>Active</i> | 5 " |

The course will be from Police Pier, round Channel Rocks, markboat at starting line, and Channel Rocks, all to starboard, and finish across starting line from east to west. Start at 2 p.m.

On the same day and same course there will be a race for service boats steered by the mid-shipmen in charge, for a prize presented by the Commodore. Start at 2.15 p.m.

To-morrow there will be a race for a prize presented by Captain Brown, C.P.H. Time allowance as per Y.R.A. scale. Ratings calculated under new rule. Course will be from Police Pier, round Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rock, and the markboat on the line, all to port, twice round. Start 1 p.m.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"D" INFANTRY CO.

This company held the final shoot in the Competition for a cup presented by the Hon. J. J. Keawick on the range at Kowloon last Sunday. Owing to the unsettled weather the attendance was small but some good scores were made.

| | 200 yds. | 500 yds. | 600 yds. | H. cap. | Total. |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
| * Corpl. Ritchie ... | 30 | 30 | 32 | 11 | 103 |
| Prvt. Horley ... | 31 | 29 | 29 | 10 | 99 |
| " Andrew ... | 29 | 32 | 26 | 10 | 96 |
| " Watson ... | 30 | 31 | 33 | — | 94 |
| Capt. Forbes ... | 24 | 30 | 24 | 15 | 93 |

The conditions of the Competition were as follows:—Six shoots at the three ranges, the first, second, third, and fourth scores in each shoot to count 5, 4, 3, and 2 points respectively. Private A. Mackenzie wins the cup with 19 points. Private Horley 18, Privates Watson and Andrew 17 points each.

* Winner of Spoon.

CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE IN 1900.

Mr. F. E. Taylor, statistical secretary of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Shanghai, makes in his review of the foreign trade of China in 1900 the following general remarks:—The great expansion of China's foreign trade, shown by the statistics for 1899, was continued during the first half of 1900; but the disturbances in the North, which became serious in June, not only stopped for a time all trade at Newchwang and Tientsin, which had shown such improvement during the previous year, but naturally had a depressing effect throughout the ports. The idea that the Boxer movement against the Christian converts could be successfully employed in the deliverance of the country from foreign dictation and interference was accepted by only a limited part in Peking and by certain officials in the northern provinces. Elsewhere it was fortunately received with a scepticism which proved sufficient to save China from a general war, and trade went on as usual, hampered only by a want of confidence engendered by the uncertainty of the political outlook. In the South a rebellion, which at one time looked serious, was promptly suppressed by the authorities, but caused some disturbance to trade in the districts affected. The Yangtze Valley was kept wonderfully tranquil, and one or two abortive attempts at insurrection were immediately quelled. The power of the officials to preserve order has never been more strikingly manifested. That trade was not more ruinously impeded, always excepting the actual area of hostilities, during a year which was so exceptionally trying to merchants and so full of

unrest for the populace, shows its vitality and how quickly it will revive when peace is restored. We may hope that the Chinese Government, under the pressure of circumstances, will now awake to the necessity of developing the resources of the country, and we shall then see China becoming more wealthy under the stimulus of apparent misfortunes. The strength of the Chinese lies in their industry and commercial aptitudes, and not in their capacity for war, and the cultivations with foreign Powers will serve them better than the vain policy of exclusion and resistance to progress.

Of Imports the report says:—It will be seen that, with the exception of 1899, which was a remarkable year, the sterling value of the Import trade has not increased during the decade. Reference to old price-lists shows that silver prices generally have risen in sympathy with the fall in exchange, and the sterling conversions more fairly represent the course of trade than do the silver figures. At the same time it must be remembered that the value of goods from the Straits is not affected by sterling exchange; while exchange with India, although the closing of the mints in 1893 forced up the value of the rupee, has not followed the exact course of exchange with Europe and America. Japan has now a gold standard, but the currency scheme adopted left her exchange with China almost at par. In some directions also there has been a reduction in the sterling cost of production, and the rise in silver prices has not quite kept pace with the fall in exchange. While, therefore, the sterling conversions are offered as interesting and as a better basis for comparison, it is not claimed that they are an entirely accurate index of the changes in the bulk of the trade. There has been an increase, and the Chinese are gradually purchasing more foreign goods, and they are demanding a better class of cotton goods; but the table seems to show that, owing to defective means of communication and the cost of carriage, each port supplies only a restricted district. When the populations of such districts are satisfied, trade stands still, except for such expansion as increase in their number and the profits of the trade enable the people to demand. When railways are built we shall see a great advance in the trade, not only because goods will penetrate further, but because a large proportion of the capital used in construction will be spent by the Chinese on foreign goods, to be paid for eventually by Exports.

Under the heading of Foreign Trade, Mr. Taylor says:—One would naturally have expected a disastrous commercial panic with heavy failures; but the year has been, generally speaking, a fairly good though anxious one. Trade was so brisk during the first six months and revived so strongly towards the close that contrary to all expectations, the value of the foreign trade was well up to the average of late years, although naturally falling short of such an exceptional year as 1899. At Newchwang such astonishing progress was shown previous to the disturbances that a rapid recovery may be looked for. Tientsin may possibly be adversely affected for some little time, but it is just as likely that the profits of the military occupation and the wide distribution of hoarded wealth which has taken place will lead to an early increase of trade there. Personal experience is more persuasive than advice, and the Chinese Government will probably be more disposed to regard with favour the extension of railways since the arduous journey of the Court to Hsian, to which place supplies came very slowly and suffered considerably in bulk on the road. Famine, too, has come under their immediate notice, and the people were perishing around them without hope of the relief which railways could have brought. Whatever changes may result from the events of 1900, whatever readjustment may take place in the share of the trade taken by each country, it may be confidently expected that the foreign commerce of China, as a whole, will continue the expansion which was so marked in 1899.

On "Treasure" the report contains the following remarks:—The recorded movements of Gold and Silver Bullion between China and foreign countries show a net import of Gold worth Hk. Tls. 1,222,315, and a net import of Silver to the value of Hk. Tls. 15,442,212.

These figures represent only such movements of Bullion as came under the notice of the Customs, and must not be taken as even approximately correct as regards imports. There was an enormous import of Silver in the shape of British, French, and Mexican dollars, brought by the military authorities. In Manchuria dollars are said to be ousting sycee as currency, and it is possible that the same change will take place in those parts of Chihli where dollars are at present more plentiful than sycee. The export of Gold, coming principally from Manchuria, was checked by the war. On the other hand, large quantities of Gold coins, chiefly from Japan, were imported by the banks for sale to Chinese, who bought them freely as conveniently portable during a period of suspense. The dollars turned out by the Chinese mints have not gained the confidence of the people, but there is some hope that more attention will be paid in future to the preservation of a uniform standard of purity.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF KIAOCHAU.

The White Book issued recently by the German Government contains some interesting details of the activity displayed in developing Kiaochau during the year ending with October, 1900. Although the political disorders in the Far East have affected the state of order in this German Protectorate at no time during the last official year, the disturbances in the Chinese province of Shantung, which forms the hinterland, threatened to reach the German frontier, and in fact they did result in the complete interruption of the preparations made in view of railway and mining enterprise. Fortunately, the work thus affected was in its initial stages, and the harm wrought was confined to delay. Both in the colony and along the coast there was a general deadlock in trade and intercourse as the result of the uncertainty of the political position; important undertakings on the part of Chinese traders were not carried through, and at one period the development of Kiaochau threatened to come to a complete standstill.

Fortunately the officials rose to the occasion, and put forth every effort in order to carry forward the great technical and economic undertakings in progress at the time. The work of constructing the harbour was not interrupted for a single day during the official year, and great progress was made in building the stone jetties which in the near future will afford a suitable anchorage for the largest vessels. Streets have been laid and houses built uninterruptedly at Tsintau and in the neighbourhood. The central water supply, the most important feature from a sanitary aspect, is nearly completed, and the hills lying around the town have been planted with trees on a careful method, while Tsintau has been connected with Chefoo by means of a German submarine cable. In other directions progress is to be recorded. The local law court has been able to deal successfully with the growing demands made upon it; the German school has been enlarged, and an official journal has been founded. This organ publishes all the more important orders and communications both in German and Chinese, and is to be regarded as a further step in the direction of winning the Chinese over to the German administrators.

The White Book fitly acknowledges the strenuous efforts of the officials to keep the activity of the Protectorate alive during the recent troubled times were aided by German merchants and private enterprise, the most important in the latter respect being the railway; seeing that if railway construction had come to a standstill the loss of orders for iron to the amount of many millions of marks would have affected seriously the home iron market. When railway construction was interrupted in the hinterland to the north-west of Kiaochau, the engineers and labourers were employed with redoubled energy in pushing forward the new line to connect Kiaochau with Tientsin. This line has been laid down simultaneously from each of these places. The embankment is completed; the greater part of the necessary masonry, with the exception of some rather large bridges, and the station buildings are so far

progressed that their completion is looked for during the coming spring. A later report, dated 31st December, 1900, says that on that day the line had been laid 37 kilometres northwards of Taintan and 46 kilometres to the north-east of Kiaochau, and thus there remained then only a section nine kilometres long to be laid for the completion of the line, which ought to be thrown open for traffic in the coming spring.

The requisite rolling-stock is already for the greater part in readiness on the spot. Up to the end of November eight locomotives, 226 waggons, and three waggon-cranes had been shipped, and of these, six locomotives and 170 waggons had arrived. Four locomotives and 90 waggons have been put together, mainly by Chinese workmen under European supervision in the temporary workshops erected at Taintan and at Taputou. In the autumn of 1899 courses of instruction were opened for teaching Chinese employees German, arithmetic, telegraphy, and the usual railway duties. Thirteen young Chinese attended these courses with success, but most of them fled from Taintan in July, on the outbreak of the Chinese disorders. The projected railway from Kiaochau to Kaumi, in a north-west direction, and also the light railway from Kiaochau to Taputou on the bay to the south-east, a distance of 13 kilometres, have been carried so far as the completion of all the work necessary for laying down the track.

There has been a keen demand for land in the so-called "industrial quarter" in the vicinity of the small harbour, but private building activity has not kept pace with the demand for good and cheap dwellings, and house rent is still comparatively high. A Land Registry Office, after the Prussian pattern, has been established; and sound mortgages can be obtained at eight per cent. The Chinese postal communication established in 1899 between Taintan and the interior was greatly interrupted by the disorders. The German postal communication is maintained by German steamers every four or six days in either direction, between Shanghai and Tientsin, calling at Chefoo and Taintan. At Shanghai these steamers meet the German Imperial mail steamers. In addition the mails are sent occasionally by German men-of-war or cargo steamers that happen to call. A most important improvement in telegraphic communication was brought about by laying a German cable from Chefoo to Taintan, and thence to Shanghai, as thereby the Protectorate was put into direct intercourse with the leading submarine cables, and was thus independent of the unreliable Chinese land telegraph system. The telegraph office at Taintan was opened on 5th October, 1900.

The shipping trade of Taintan tends to become limited almost entirely to British and German craft. The figures are 22 and 140 steamers respectively, while Japan, China, Russia, Norway, and Austria contributed, all told, only 20 steamers, of which 19 were Japanese. The Chinese Customs system at Taintan is regarded as provisional until a definite arrangement is arrived at with China on this point. The White Book remarks that "in any case strong adherence will be given to the principle of preserving to this German Protectorate the unqualified character of a free port."

In May, 1900, the electric light was in working order in Kiaochau under a concession granted to a German company, and the rights of the Government and of the consumers were alike carefully safeguarded. A Colonial company, the Shantung Mining Company, was formed on 19th October, 1899, with a capital of £600,000 in shares of £15. The company receives the right of working coal, minerals, and petroleum for a distance of 15 kilometres on either side of the Shantung railway for the space of five years, and it binds itself to supply on demand its coal to the German Navy at a price five per cent. below the actual market price of coal of the same quality. As a rule the Chinese have shown a friendly disposition to the German miners. Six new firms were registered since 1st October, 1899, and the Imperial Admiralty Department sends a yearly report of the register of trade at Kiaochau to all Chambers of Commerce and interested circles in Germany. So far the Civil Court has sentenced to death six

Chinese, while the Military Court has hanged four; in all cases the Chinese had been guilty of stealing arms. At the entrance to the Bay of Kiaochau a lighthouse was finished in November, 1900, on the island of Yunuisan, and it began to work on 1st December.

In conclusion attention must be drawn to the very admirable maps referring respectively to the military events, railway construction, and arboriculture in the Protectorate, and the White Book contains a large chart of the two harbours, the harbour works, and roadstead of Kiaochau. Nine phototypes representing the results of German activity complete an official report, which is stamped throughout by evidence of the closest regard for detail.

This exhaustive report, the maps, and views, are the work of the German Naval Authorities, who are responsible entirely for the development of Kiaochau.—*Globe*.

HONGKONG DOCKYARD.

Surprise has been created in Dockyard circles at home, says the *Naval and Military Record*, by the Admiralty's application for candidates to fill nine appointments as chargemen of shipwrights, one as chargeman of joiners, and one as chargeman of blacksmiths, at Hongkong Dockyard. For the past two years the Admiralty have been quietly strengthening the staff there, and it was only recently that authority was given to increase the Metropolitan police at Hongkong from 45 to 67, whilst the staff of officials at the yard has been increased during the past few months from 41 to 52. The mechanics are, with one or two exceptions, natives, and it is largely in consequence of complaints of a want of sufficient supervision that the large staff of extra chargemen is to be sent out. It is not generally known that the Admiralty have arranged for considerably extending the naval hospital accommodation at Hongkong. For this purpose a piece of land adjoining the present hospital has been purchased at a cost of £1,300, and on this will be erected a magnificent building, which is estimated to cost nearly £35,000. This extension is not taken in hand before it is needed, for when the China squadron was less than half its present strength it was found necessary, for want of accommodation at the naval establishments, to send patients to various private hospitals on the station. Additional accommodation for the storage of ammunition is to be provided at Hongkong at a cost of £2,750, whilst the torpedo depot at Kowloon, on the opposite side of the harbour, is to be extended at a cost of £2,000.

HONGKONG.

The recognition of Don Jesus Mauso de Zuñiga as Honorary Consul for Spain at Hongkong is notified in the *Gazette*.

Chevalier Z. Volpicelli, Italian Consul-General, left by the French mail for Shanghai on Tuesday, where he will pay a visit to the Italian Admiral now on the China station.

The seaman Burke, of H.M.S. *Centurion*, who was arrested on the 24th inst. for stealing a watch and chain, was brought up before the Commanding Officer on the 25th inst., and after the evidence for the prosecution had been taken, the accused was remanded.

A football match, Scotland v. The World, will be played at Happy Valley this afternoon. So far, the composition of the teams promises a good match, and included there are not a few of the Siege Train eleven, the winners of the Challenge Shield.

The Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce on the 25th inst. informed us the Chamber was in receipt of intelligence from the Government that the following telegram has been received from the Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements:—"Hongkong declared infected." We received a Government notification to the same effect.

A fatal accident occurred in the docks at Hunghom on the 24th inst., when a Japanese waiter employed on the *Nippon Maru*, at present dry-docked there, fell a distance of forty feet from the gangway leading to the vessel, sustaining injuries to which he succumbed an hour later. He had just returned from shore leave, and was under the influence of drink.

The Japanese cruiser *Tokow* left on the 21st inst. for the North.

During the indisposition of the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Acting Puisne Judge, will be Acting Colonial Secretary.

Major W. R. H. Beresford, 1st Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, in South Africa, has been selected for the command of the 2nd Battalion of this regiment at Hongkong.

The Russian battleship *Poltava*, which arrived here from Sumatra on the 22nd inst., is a turret-ship of 10,960 tons displacement and 11,225 i.h.p., built at St. Petersburg in 1891. Her armour is 15½ in. belt, 10 in. H.S. gun-position, and 3 in. deck. She carries four 12 in. twelve 5.9 in. Q.F., and 34 smaller guns, and six torpedo-tubes. Her speed is 16.2 knots.

Quite a number of changes have been effected in the local mercantile marine during the past few days. Among them we notice Mr. Murdoch, the Chief Engineer of the steamer *Wingsang*, leaving for Europe this week. Mr. Purvis, Chief Engineer of the steamer *Fausang* left last week for England, and his place has been taken by Mr. Drummond, and Chief Engineer Thompson of the steamer *Pakshan* has handed over charge to Mr. R. H. A. Khella.

What would undoubtedly have been a disaster of some dimensions was averted by the foresight exercised on the part of a machinist on the U.S.S. *Concord* on the 22nd inst. By some means at present unexplained, the water in the boilers of the vessel was allowed to become so small in quantity that had the machinist not noticed it an explosion must have taken place during the next hour. As it was, some little damage was done.

At a meeting of the United Mark Lodge (No. 419 E. C.) in the Masonic Hall, Zetland Street, on the 25th inst., the following office-bearers for 1901 were installed:—Worshipful Master, Bro. C. Lockhead; S.W., Bro. G. G. Burnett; J.W., Bro. H. W. Wolfe; M.O., Bro. Wooley; P.O., Bro. Angus; J.O., Bro. Baker; Chaplain, Bro. Varcoe; Treasurer, Bro. I. A. Wheel; Secretary, Bro. H. G. Garrod; R.M., Bro. E. A. Hickman; S.D., Bro. R. F. Bowery; J.D., Bro. J. T. Walton; I.G., Bro. F. W. King; D.C., Bro. W. Kent; Steward, Bro. J. R. Craik; Tyler, Bro. John Maxwell.

The Brough Comedy Company's Hongkong season will commence at the City Hall on Tuesday, the 16th April, and continue for about three weeks. The repertoire will consist of *The Lears* (which will be the opening play); *The Gay Lord Quex*; *The Manoeuvres of Jane*; *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*; *The Tyranny of Tears*; *The Brixton Burglary*; *Sowing the Wind*; *A Man of Forty*; *A Village Priest*; *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*; *Dandy Dick*; and *Niobe*; all the plays will be mounted in the same manner as formerly. Everything in the way of scenery, costumes, and stage furnishings being carried for each play. The Box-plans, we are informed, will be open on the 10th prox.

Sergeant Clark, a well-known member of the Hongkong Police Force, died in hospital at eight o'clock on the 23rd inst. from heart failure. The deceased, who had formerly been a member of the Dundee Police Force, in which body he saw three years' service, arrived in the colony on 17th December, 1891. He took a keen interest in his duties, and, combining other good qualities with a knowledge of Chinese, was rapidly promoted, till he finally attained the rank of sergeant. The deceased was for a considerable time stationed in the New Territory, and made one of the party under Captain Superintendent May which was surrounded and fired upon on 16th April, 1899, on the occasion of the taking over of the New Territory. Sergeant Clark was credited with bringing down the first man of the rebellious Chinese. His work in the New Territory brought on a severe attack of malarial fever, from which he never fully recovered. Transferred to the Peak district, Sergeant Clark was apparently benefitting wonderfully by the pure air of the higher altitudes, when his constitution suddenly broke down, and on Thursday, 21st inst., he was admitted to the Government Civil Hospital, where he died on the 23rd instant. He was about 27 years of age, and unmarried. The funeral took place at Happy Valley on the 23rd inst. at half-past three, and was well attended by his old comrades of the Police Force.

H.M.S. *Endymion* left on the 24th inst. for Shanghai. The Portuguese cruiser *Adamas* came over on the 23rd inst. from Macao.

There arrived by the *Oceanien* on the 25th inst. a large quantity of vaccine lymph consigned to Hongkong from Saigon.

Commander F. H. Elderton, R.I.M., Marine Transport Officer, was admitted to Hospital on the 25th inst. suffering from a severe attack of fever.

We are glad to be able to state that the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart is on his way to recovery, and that his illness has not been so serious as was reported.

Mr H. E. Pollock, K.C., Hon. Treasurer of the Seamen's Church and Mission Fund, acknowledged with thanks a donation of \$50 from Mr. Murray Stewart.

Mr. W. Chatham, Acting Director of Public Works, has been appointed member of the Executive and Legislative Councils vice Mr. R. D. Ormsby, resigned.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., the Hon. Treasurer of the Seamen's Church and Mission Fund, acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$150 from "A Friend" per the Bishop of Victoria.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week shows that the former institution was visited by 472 non-Chinese and 146 Chinese, the latter by 178 non-Chinese and 1,972 Chinese.

During the week ended the 23rd March the return of cases of communicable disease were:—plague, 8 cases (7 in Victoria), 10 deaths; enteric fever, one case (Japanese); small-pox, 7 cases (all Chinese in Victoria), 6 deaths.

A slight fire broke out early on the 25th inst. in a coffin-maker's place at 61, Aberdeen Street. The Central Fire Brigade, under Deputy Superintendent Budeley, mastered the outbreak before much damage had been done.

Messrs Lamke & Rogge informed us on the 22nd inst. that they had just received a telegram from Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co., Saigon, to the effect that quarantine established at Saigon against Singapore had been taken off.

A *Government Gazette Extraordinary*, issued yesterday, declares that telegraphic information having been received that Singapore is now free from plague and cholera, the Proclamation is rescinded declaring Singapore to be a place at which an infectious or contagious disease prevails.

The following have been elected Lay Members of the Church Body for 1901:—Sir John W. Carrington, C.M.G., Hon. W. M. Goodman, K.C., Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Messrs. H. E. Pollock, K.C., A. Bryer, Honorary Secretary, and H. W. Slade, Honorary Treasurer. Mr. J. C. Peter has been elected Auditor.

An outbreak of fire occurred on the 26th inst. in a dwelling-house situated on the first floor of a building at 12, Kwa Wai Lane. Two storeys were gutted before the Central Fire Brigade, under Deputy Superintendent Budeley, succeeded in subduing the flames. The damage, which has not yet been estimated, is covered by insurance.

On the 25th inst. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for sale by auction at the offices of the Public Works Department Inland Lot No. 1,632, which is situate in Macdonnell road. The lot contains 11,562 square feet and is subject to a yearly rent of \$66. The upset was fixed at \$2,890, and the lot was knocked down to Chai Yeuk Shan for \$6,020, which is at the rate of 52 cents a square foot.

H. M. S. *Endymion* played a farewell hockey match against the Indian Brigade on the 22nd inst. at Kowloon, at 4.20 p.m., resulting in a victory for the Naval team by 7 goals to 3. The game was a very fast one throughout. The Naval officers combined well together, and played a good open game; they all worked hard to win this, their last success. The Indian Brigade team were somewhat weak in combination, owing to want of practice.

Przyliniski, the non-commissioned officer in the Dutch army who was arrested by Inspector Kemp, of the Water Police, about two months ago, on arrival in the harbour from Penang, left on the 25th inst. for Batavia on the homeward French mail in charge of Inspector Bosschert, of the Java Police. Przyliniski, it will be remembered, was in charge of a military district in Netherlands India, and is accused of embezzling \$300 of the funds of that district.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Applications for positions on the Tientsin railway are incessant, but it is stated that there are no vacancies.

H. M. S. *Argonaut* was at Nanking on the 20th instant, and it is expected that she will remain there for some time to come.

The *China Gazette* says that "with reference to the statement published in Shanghai by one of Rev. Mr. Ament's missionary friends that he has been acquitted of the charge of looting," it is able to contradict this upon the highest authority.

Alarming rumours have reached Rangoon of serious unrest on the Burmo-Chinese frontier. The Chinese in some of the frontier towns are stated to be extremely unsettled and truculent. Unless the garrisons are speedily increased and largely reinforced, raids into British territory may take place at any moment.

It is officially announced in Singapore that His Royal Highness the Duke of York will land in white uniform. On the 15th inst. there was a meeting of the members of the Straits Chinese British Association in the Town Hall, when the form of welcome to be extended by the Association to Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York was considered.

Two Chinamen arrested in Shanghai by the French police on a charge of piracy have received sentences of twelve months' imprisonment. They were connected more or less with the remarkable band (about which we have already given a few lines from the *Echo de Chine*) which guarantees ships travelling on the Yangtze against piracy but is more than suspected of piracy itself. The head of this society is said to be European.

As we have already mentioned, a new school is being opened for boys at Weihaiwei. We see from the preliminary prospectus that the school is to be conducted on public school lines, of the status of the average grammar and proprietary schools of England, and is intended to prepare pupils for entrance to such schools. Eurasians are not admissible to the school, but Chinese instruction will be given if required. Weihaiwei will shortly be in possession of an institution which we in Hongkong, for all the years' start which our colony had, are still without. The school at Weihaiwei is due, of course, to private enterprise, but it seems to be much on the same lines as we hope to see adopted here in the future.

The large British ship *Sindia* from New York had a rather unpleasant experience in the Yangtze the other day, the *N.C. Daily News* relates. The wind and tide being very strong, she began to drag; the brake was put on, but the ship took charge; the chain ran out to the bitter end and parted. Another anchor was let go with the same result, and then a third anchor was let go with a six-inch Manila hawser and that parted. Meanwhile, the captain of H.M.S. *Glory*, seeing that the *Sindia* was in difficulties, sent an officer and fifty men to her assistance, and after hard work on their part and on the part of the *Sindia's* crew, a fourth anchor with a wire hawser was got over the bows, and this held her. The captain of the *Sindia* expresses much gratitude for the prompt and valuable assistance spontaneously rendered him by the great battleship.

H. E. Tao Mu, Viceroy at Canton, has sent a telegram to the gentry and merchants of Shanghai, which runs as follows:—The Russo-Chinese Agreement greatly injures the success of the peace negotiations, and it is therefore impossible to consent to its ratification. I have already, in conjunction with H. E. Ts'ao Shou, governor of Kwangtung, sent a telegram, dated the 1st of the 2nd moon (20th March), to their Majesties at Hsian, strongly protesting against the ratification of said agreement, but whether we will be successful in influencing the Throne remains to be seen, and we are anxiously hoping for a favourable Rescript. To that the Shanghai gentry and merchants have replied praying Tao Mu to call upon the Viceroys and Governors of the other provinces to join in fighting to the death against the ratification, and to declare that he will refuse to recognise the agreement if the protest is not accepted. They have sent a similar request to Liu Kung-yi and Chang Chi-tung.

Captain E. M. Jackson, Indian Staff Corps, has been appointed Staff Officer at Weihaiwei.

Herr Cordes, the Interpreter to the German Legation at Peking, who during the siege of the Legations was dangerously wounded, has now completely recovered, and has returned to Berlin.

The Japanese Consul at Honolulu has lodged a claim with the Hawaiian Government for damages amounting to one million yen, attendant upon the destruction of Japanese houses in consequence of the sanitary measures against the plague.

Captain C. M. A. Wood has resigned the adjutancy of the 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, in South Africa, in order to proceed to China, where he rejoins the 1st Battalion Chinese Regiment, which it has been decided to raise immediately to a strength of twelve companies, in view of the early formation of a 2nd Battalion.

The American steamer *Tun Auco* is badly ashore on the Pratas shoal, and will become a total wreck. The mate and seven seamen arrived in the harbour on Tuesday morning in an open boat, and reported that the captain, thirty-three seamen, and two passengers remained by the ship. Rear-Admiral Remy, U.S. Navy, has despatched the collier *Saturn* to the scene.

The *Singapore Free Press* understands that the Straits Chinese British Association have before them quite a luminous idea in connection with the approaching visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. The intention of the Committee of that body is to erect a sort of characteristic trophy in the shape of a Chinese pagoda, this to be surmounted by a figure of Britannia holding a torch in her uplifted hand. The idea is that this torch shall be composed of electric lights inclosed in a gauze frame. The scale of the trophy is by no means insignificant, as it is purposed to have a base of 40 feet square. The whole structure of the pagoda would be lit up in tiers by Chinese lanterns, and it is contemplated to have, in conjunction with the illuminated pagoda, mottoes of loyal welcome. The site that commends itself to the promoters of the idea is some suitable point on the Old Gaol ground.

A supplementary budget has been issued to the Japanese Diet, showing the estimated income and expenditure in connection with military expenditures in China during the fiscal year 1901-2. The figures are these:—

INCOME.

To be raised in the form of a domestic loan carrying interest at the maximum rate of 8 per cent., the loan to Yen.
be repaid in two years 17,680,000
Proceeds of the Beer Tax 229,047
Proceeds of revised Customs Dues ... 141,374
Proceeds of Tax on Sugar 2,718,827
Proceeds of increased Tobacco Tax ... 3,204,287

Total 23,973,535

EXPENDITURE.

Rewards and Pensions 220,000
Customs Expenses 26,314
Expenses of collecting taxes 159,297
Second Reserve for China campaign ... 23,500,000

Total 23,905,611

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 16th March.—Taslees.—No settlements are reported. Re-reels.—About 50 bales of No. 1 Grant have been sold at \$602½ to \$603 and more could be had at the latter price. Offers of New Season's Re-reels sent to New York on the basis of \$610 met with no response. Filatures.—Continued to be in good demand during the first part of the fortnight, but the high prices asked by the dealers checked business, and it was not until dealers had given way somewhat that transactions increased again. From prices paid quotations are:—\$800 for Min King Lun and Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13, \$790 for Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13, \$770 for Sun Yu Lun 9/11 and King Seng 11/13, \$745 for Kwong King Cheong 9/11, \$725 to \$715 for Kum Lun Tai 11/13 and 13/15, \$700 for Man Po Lun 10/12, Shun Wo Hing and Luen Wo Hing 10/13, \$685 for Yuk Wo Hing 10/13, \$680 for Sooy Wo Cheong 10/12, \$675 for Koun King, Wai

King Wo, Yee Wo Cheong and Yu Ye Lum 18/22, 060 to \$640 for Soey Wo Cheong and Hing Lun 11/13 and 13/15. Short-reels—Have been in little enquiry and prices are rather weak. From prices paid quotations are:—\$750 for Kwong Wo Hing 14/16, \$745 for Yu King 14/16, \$720 for Kwong Wo Tai 14/16. Waste.—Very little has been done and prices are nominal. Appended are quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$, and Fca. 2.56 per Dollar.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Still no arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—A further advance in price is reported, holders being firm. Quotations are:—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White..... | \$8.60 to \$8.65 | pcl. |
| do. " 2, White..... | 7.80 to 7.85 | " |
| Shekloong, No. 1, Brown | 5.80 to 5.85 | " |
| do. " 2, Brown | 5.65 to 5.70 | " |
| Swatow, No. 1, White..... | 8.50 to 8.55 | " |
| do. " 1, White..... | 7.65 to 7.70 | " |
| Swatow, No. 1, Brown | 5.70 to 5.75 | " |
| do. " 2, Brown | 5.60 to 5.65 | " |
| Foochow Sugar Candy | 12.65 to 12.70 | " |
| Shekloong " | 11.75 to 11.80 | " |

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Tonkin*, sailed on the 11th, Mar. For Marseilles:—243 bales raw silk, 5 cases silks, 50 cases tea, 17 cases curios, 250 cases staranised, 1 case camphor trunk. For Lyons:—417 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *China*, sailed on the 12th March. For San Francisco:—100 pkgs. tea, 11 cases silk. For New York:—5 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Patroclus*, sailed on the 16th March. For Liverpool:—650 bales hemp, 20 bales tea mats, 3 cases blackwoodware, 3 case surniture, 10 pkgs. sundries. For New York:—22 cases M. O. P. shell.

Per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, sailed on the 16th March. For London:—1,321 boxes tea from Foochow, 23 bales raw silk, 1 case silk piece goods, 80 cases bristles, 1 case grass cloth, 1 case feathers, 3 cases old charts, 3 cases typewriters, 4 cases curios, 10 cases curios and furniture, 1 case camphorwood, 1 case fur coats, 1 case cigars, 1 case photos and silverware, 1 case silverware, 6 cases effects, 1 case curios. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For St. Etienne:—10 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—340 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—160 bales raw silk, 3 cases curios.

Per steamer *Deucalion*, sailed on the 19th March. For London:—100 boxes—2,100 lbs. congou tea, 1,078 bales hemp, 200 bales feathers, 24 bales tea mats, 15 bags coffee beans, 15 cases preserves, 3,150 cases preserves, 100 cases P. L. fan, 83 cases Chinaware, 35 cases blackwoodware, 9 cases wine, 9 cases cigars, 470 pkgs. empty drums, 34 pkgs. shell, 46 pkgs. sundries. For Liverpool:—1 case cigars. For Manchester:—50 bales W. silk. For London opt. Manchester:—70 bales W. silk. For Glasgow:—9 cases P. effects, 1 case silverware. For London opt. Glasgow:—100 cases ginger. For London opt. Hamburg:—119 bales canes.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Malwa is dull and in the absence of business no reliable quotations can be given. The opium ex Soerakon is in the course of landing and we expect market will open to-morrow.

Bengal.—Patna fluctuated between \$922 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$925 with a fair amount of business done down at these rates. Benares was dealt in at \$945 to \$940.

Persian.—The past fortnight has been almost a blank one, no business being reported, and previous quotations remain unchanged but are nominal.

STOCK.

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Patna | 1,692 |
| Benares | 211 |
| Malwa | 698 |
| Persian | 2,736 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Very small sales at a decline of \$ $\frac{1}{4}$ to \$ $\frac{1}{2}$, closing depressed. Stock, about 8,000 bales.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Bombay, | 18.00 to 20.00 | picul |
| Bengal (New), Rangoon, } | 21.00 to 22.25 | " |
| and Dacca, | " | " |
| Shanghai and Japanese, | 23.00 to 24.50 | " |
| Tungchow and Ningpo, | 23.00 to 24.50 | " |

Sale: 100 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, March 29th.—As promised, dealers have succeeded in forcing down the market, and present quotations are \$2 to \$3 lower than last advised. The willingness of sellers to meet buyers, however, has not led to any material increase in business, which still continues to drag. The customary annual grave-worshipping festival commences next week, and until this is finished and new rice planted, it is evident there will be no improvement in demand. Dealers look for a resumption of business at the close of next month, or perhaps later, but predict a lower range of values. Meanwhile stocks are accumulating, and the market is passing through a period of very unusual depression.

Local Manufacture.—The local Mill is experiencing less demand, and has lowered its quotations \$2 to \$3 per bale, but fails to induce much business. Sales reported are some 100 bales. No. 12s., at \$86, and 25 bales No. 12s., at \$84. Close weak.

Japanese Yarn.—Supplies still keep out and spot sales are impracticable, but some forward business has transpired, say 500 bales Settsu No. 16s., and 20s., May-June delivery, at \$104 for No. 16s., and \$107 for No. 20s., market closing firm.

Rew Cotton.—Is very weak and unsteady. Again, heavy receipts of Indian descriptions have further depressed the market, and with an insignificant offtake, both local and for export, holders find themselves quite unable to force business. Sales of the interval amount to 102 bales best machine-ginned Bengal at from \$22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$22. Unsold stock 7,900 bales. Very little China Cotton is coming to hand, and with the exception of a forced sale of 70 bales Ningpo at \$24 $\frac{1}{2}$ no business is reported. Unsold stock about 500 bales. Quotations are:—Indian \$18 to \$22, Rangoon \$17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$, and Chinese \$22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$24.

Exchange on India has been very weak and closes to-day at Rs. 146 $\frac{1}{2}$ for T T and Rs. 147 for Post. On Shanghai 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ and on Yokohama at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai for the fortnight ending 23rd instant, viz:—

Indian.—Total sales 5,740 bales, comprising 2,723 bales No. 1s., 75 bales No. 12s., 105 bales No. 16s., and 2,834 bales No. 20s. Prices showing a general decline of one Tael, and market closing unsteady, with willing sellers despite the decline in exchange. Estimated unsold stock about 27,000 bales.

Japanese.—Short supplies have enabled holders to maintain rates. Settlements aggregate about 4,500 bales No. 20s. (of which more than 3,000 bales are for forward delivery) on the basis of Tls. 76 to 78 for No. 16s., and Tls. 79 to 81 for No. 20s., stock nil.

Local.—High prices were checking business, but a heavy drop of three to four Taels at the close had induced buyers to enter the market, and about 3,700 bales changed hands on the basis of Tls. 65 to 70 for No. 10s., Tls. 70 to 72 for No. 14s., and Tls. 73 to 74 for No. 16s., market closing week.

COALS.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Small sales of Japanese at quotations:—

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cardiff | \$29.00 | sellers ex ship |
| Australian | \$14.00 to \$14.50 | ex godown, nominal |
| Yuhari Lump | \$11.00 | ex godown, nominal |
| Milki Lump | \$10. | |
| Moji Lump | \$7.00 to \$9.50 | ex ship, steady |
| Hongay double } | 10.50 | ex godown |
| screened | " | " |
| Hongay Lump | 8.50 | ex ship |
| Hongay Dust | 5.50 | " |
| Briquettes | 14.50 | ex godown |

RICE.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—The prices are declining, no demands having come from the mainland. Quotations are:—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary | \$2.65 to 2.70 |
| " Round, Good quality | 2.85 to 2.90 |
| " Long | 3.05 to 3.10 |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 | 2.90 to 2.95 |
| " Garden, " No. 1 | 3.25 to 3.30 |
| " White | 3.75 to 3.80 |
| " Fine Cargo | 4.00 to 4.05 |

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 1,600 bales No. 10 at \$81 to \$88, 700 bales No. 12 at \$84.50 to \$93, 500 bales No. 16 at \$95 to \$98, 1,350 bales No. 20 at \$96 to \$100. White Shirtings: 500 pieces Gathering Leave at \$5.40.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| COTTON YARN— | per bale |
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s | \$75.00 to \$108.00 |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24 | 114.00 to 120.00 |
| " 22 to 24 | 120.00 to 128.00 |
| " 28 to 32 | 136.00 to 142.00 |
| " 38 to 42 | 155.00 to 170.00 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| COTTON PIECE GOODS— | per piece. |
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. | 2.10 to 2.15 |
| 7 lbs. | 2.40 to 2.50 |
| 8.4 lbs. | 2.80 to 3.50 |
| 9 to 10 lbs. | 3.60 to 4.40 |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. | 2.50 to 2.75 |
| 58 to 60 " | 3.15 to 4.00 |
| 64 to 66 " | 4.20 to 5.50 |
| Fine | 5.10 to 7.75 |
| Book-folds. | 4.30 to 6.20 |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards. | 0.75 to 1.50 |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. | 1.70 to 1.85 |
| 7lbs. (32 "), " | 1.90 to 2.20 |
| 6lbs. (32 "), Mexs. | 1.90 to 2.15 |
| 7lbs. (32 "), " | 2.75 to 3.60 |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) | 2.80 to 3.50 |
| Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs. | 4.20 to 7.00 |

FANCY COTTONS—

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 lbs. | 1.55 to 5.00 |
| Brocades—Dyed | — to — |
| Chintzes—Assorted | 0.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.17 |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in. | 0.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.60 |
| Velveteens—18 in. | 0.20 to 0.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.36 | per dozen 2.50 |
| WOOLENS— | per yard |
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. | 0.80 to 1.50 |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths | 1.25 to 2.50 |
| Long Ells—Scarlet | 6.40 to 10.00 |
| Assorted | 6.50 to 10.10 |
| Camlets—Assorted | 12.50 to 32.00 |

METALS—

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } | per picul 8.00 to 20.00 |
| Assorted } | " |
| Orleans—Plain | 8.50 to 10.00 |
| Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. | 4.00 to 18.00 |
| Iron—Nail Rod | 4.00 to — |
| Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) | 4.00 to — |
| Swedish Bar | 6.50 to — |
| Small Round Rod | 4.50 to — |
| Hoop $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. | 5.25 to — |
| Wire 15/25 | 8.00 to — |
| Old Wire Rope | 2.50 to — |
| Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop | 8.75 to — |
| Australian | 8.25 to — |
| Yellow Metal—Muntz. 14/20 oz. | 40.50 to — |
| Vivian's. 14/20 oz. | 40.00 to — |
| Elliot's. 14/20 oz. | 40.00 to — |
| New Chops. 14/20 oz. | — to — |
| Composition Nails | 63.00 to — |
| Japan Copper, Slabs | 41.00 to — |
| Tin | 69.00 to — |
| Tin-Plates | 6.50 to — |
| Steel $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5.25 to — |

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Plassy (str.), Idomeneus (str.), Agamemnon (str.), Ajax (str.), Stentor (str.), Bombay (str.), Tambu Maru (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.), Candia (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL.—Tantalus (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Ernest Simons (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.), Candia (str.), Manchuria (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Freiburg (str.), Marburg (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Hamburg (str.), Sibiria (str.), Freiburg (str.), Marburg (str.), Savoia (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Queen Adelaide (str.), Tartar (str.), Idzumi Maru (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Tartar (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Coptic (str.), America Maru (str.), City of Peking (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Gymeric (str.).
FOR SAN DIEGO.—Strathgyle (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Taiyuan (str.), Rosetta Maru (str.), Australian (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, AND BOMBAY.—Melpomene (str.), Miike Maru (str.).

VERNON & SMYTH'S SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Business has been fairly active during the past week, and rates towards the close have strengthened in several cases.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in fair request, and sales for cash and the settlement have been made at 350, 351 and 352 per cent. premium, the market closing with probable buyers at 353 per cent. premium. Nationals are wanted at quotations, but shares do not seem to be forthcoming.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been placed at \$54 and Cantons at \$155. North Chinas have been sold and have further buyers at Tls. 182½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires were sold early in the week at \$291, but the market has since strengthened and \$295 is asked for further parcels. China Fires have buyers at \$77.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have improved their position during the interval, and might now be placed at \$33. A small business has been done at \$32½ and \$32¾. Indo-Chinas after sales at \$118 and \$117½ are quiet at the latter rate with probable sellers. China and Manilas (old) are in the market at \$60 ex dividend of \$5 paid on the 25th instant, and the new shares are wanted at \$36 ex dividend of \$2 paid on the same date. Douglasses have been sold and are wanted at \$48. Star Ferries continue in request at \$21 and \$7 for the old and new shares respectively. Shell Transports are easier at £3. 2s. 6d., at which shares may be obtained.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been inactive during the greater part of the week, but at the close are somewhat firmer with buyers at \$128 ex \$9½ dividend paid on the 28th inst. Luzons have sellers at \$39.

MINING.—Punjoms have been sold and are to be had at \$4½. Raubs have weakened and, after sales at \$43, \$42, and \$41, have declined to \$38, at which shares are obtainable.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been sold in moderate lines at quotation and more shares could probably be placed at the rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godowns have improved their position and close firm at \$95, at which rate sales have been effected. Wanchais have buyers at \$63. New Amoy Docks have been sold at \$23½, at which rate further shares might possibly be obtained.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been negotiated at \$195, \$196, and \$197, and more shares are wanted, buyers being willing now to pay \$198 for them. Kowloon Lands and West Points are quiet at quotations. Hongkong Hotels have sellers at \$117 ex dividend of \$5 paid on the 27th instant. Humphreys Estates have continued in demand and sales at varying rates up to \$13 have been effected, the market closing with probable buyers at this figure.

COTTON MILLS.—A small business has been done in Ewos at Tls. 44, and in Hongkong Cottons at \$10, the latter closing with sellers at the rate. Other stocks are unaltered and without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cements have again been in fair request at \$20, at which there are sales reported. China Borneos have been placed at \$34 and \$35 and are now wanted at \$36. Watsons are strong at \$16½. Electrics quiet at \$13 and \$7 for the old and new shares respectively. Dairy Farms are wanted at \$7, Tramways at \$200, and Hongkong and China Gas Co. shares at \$130. Ices are obtainable at \$160, Watkins at 10½, and China Providents at \$9½. Cigar shares are unchanged at quotations.

MEMOS.—Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited. Extraordinary General Meeting on the 3rd April. Punjom Mining Co., Limited. Ordinary General Meeting on the 6th April. transfer books closing from the 30th instant. China Borneo Co., Limited. Ordinary Yearly Meeting 13th April. transfer books closing from the 30th instant to 13th April inclusive.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY. | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------------------|----------|---|
| Banks— | | |
| Hongkong & S'hai... | \$125 | { 353 p. ct. prem. = [566½] L'don, £60. 10s. |
| China & Japan, ordy. | 24 | 21. |
| Do. deferred | 21 | 25 5s. |
| Natl. Bank of China | | |
| A. Shares | 28 | \$26½, buyers |
| B. Shares | 28 | \$26½. |
| Foun. Shares | 21 | \$15, sellers |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A. | 21 | \$1. |
| Campbell, Moore & Co. | \$10 | \$20. |
| China Light & Power | | |
| Co., Ltd. | \$20 | 20, nominal |
| China Prov. L. & M. | \$10 | \$9½, sales & sellers |
| China Sugar | \$100 | \$128, buyers |
| Cigar Companies— | | |
| Alhambra, Limited. | \$500 | \$1,500, buyers |
| La Commercial, Ltd. | \$500 | \$850, sales |
| Hensiana, Limited. | \$100 | \$100, sellers |
| La Favorita, Ltd. | \$500 | \$750, buyers |
| Cotton Mills— | | |
| Ewo | Tls. 100 | Tls. 44, sales |
| International | Tls. 100 | Tls. 45. |
| Laou Kung Mow | Tls. 100 | Tls. 55. |
| Soychee | Tls. 500 | Tls. 325. |
| Yahloong | Tls. 100 | Tls. 50. |
| Hongkong | \$100 | \$10, sales & sellers |
| Dairy Farm | \$6 | \$7, buyers |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo. | \$25 | \$55, sellers |
| Green Island Cement | \$10 | \$20. |
| H. & C. Bakery | \$50 | \$50. |
| Hongkong & C. Gas | 210 | \$130, buyers |
| Hongkong Electric | \$10 | \$13, sellers |
| H. H. L. Tramways | \$5 | \$7. |
| Hk. Steam Water | | |
| boat Co., Ltd. | \$5 | \$7. |
| Hongkong Hotel | \$50 | \$117, sellers, ex div. |
| Hongkong Ice | \$25 | \$160, sellers |
| H. & K. Wharf & G. | \$50 | \$95. |
| Hongkong Rope | \$50 | \$157½. |
| H. & W. Dock | \$125 | 665 p. ct. prem. = [566½] |
| Insurance— | | |
| Canton | \$50 | \$155, sales |
| China Fire | \$20 | \$77, buyers |
| China Traders' | \$25 | \$54, sales |
| Hongkong Fire | \$50 | \$295. |
| North China | 225 | Tls. 182½, buyers |
| Straits | \$20 | nominal. |
| Union | \$50 | \$265, buyers |
| Yangtze | \$60 | \$118. |
| Land and Building— | | |
| Hongkong Land Inv. | \$100 | \$198, buyers |
| Humphreys Estate | \$10 | \$13. |
| Kowloon Land & B. | \$30 | \$28. |
| West Point Building | \$50 | \$49. |
| Luzon Sugar | \$100 | \$39, sellers |
| Mining— | | |
| Charbonnages | Fcs. 250 | \$315, sellers |
| Gt. Estn. & C'donian | \$3 | nominal. |
| Do. Preference | \$1 | 40 cents |
| Jelebu | \$5 | \$5. |
| Queen's Mines, Ltd. | 25c. | nominal. |
| Olivers Mines, A. | \$5 | \$1½, sellers |
| Do. B. | \$4½ | 85 cents, buyers |
| Punjom | \$9 | \$4.50, sellers |
| Do. Preference | \$1 | \$1.20. |
| Raubs | 18 | \$38, sellers |
| New Amoy Dock | \$6½ | \$24, sellers |
| Oriente Hotel, Manila | \$50 | \$80, sellers |
| Robinson Piano Co., Ltd. | \$50 | \$50, nominal |
| Steamship Coys.— | | |
| China and Manila | \$50 | \$60, ex div., sellers |
| China Mutual Pref. | \$20 | \$36, ex div., buys. |
| China Ordinary | 210 | 212. |
| Do. | 25 | 27. |
| Douglas Steamship | \$50 | \$48, sales & buyers |
| H., Canton and M. | \$15 | \$33. |
| Indo-China S. N. | 210 | \$117½. |
| Shell Transport and | | |
| Trading Co. | 21 | 23. 3s. 6d., sellers |
| Star Ferry | \$10 | { \$21, buyers \$7, sellers |
| Tebrau Planting Co. | \$5 | \$3, sellers |
| United Asbestos | \$4 | \$8½. |
| Do. | \$10 | \$20. |
| Wanchai Warehouse | \$37½ | \$63, buyers |
| Watkins, Ltd. | \$10 | \$10½, sellers |
| Watson & Co., A. S. | \$10 | \$16½, buyers |
| Universal Trading | \$5 | \$5. |
| Co., Ltd. | | |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.
CLOSING QUOTATIONS.FRIDAY, 29th March.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11½

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight | 1/11½ |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight | 1/11½ |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 1/11½ |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 2/0 |
| ON PARIS.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 2.46 |
| Credits, 4 months' sight | 2.50 |
| ON GERMANY.— | |
| On demand | 1.99½ |
| ON NEW YORK.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 47½ |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | 48½ |
| ON BOMBAY.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 146½ |
| Bank, on demand | 147 |
| ON CALCUTTA.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 146½ |
| Bank, on demand | 147 |
| ON SHANGHAI.— | |
| Bank, at sight | 71½ |
| Private, 30 days' sight | 72½ |
| ON YOKOHAMA.— | |
| On demand | 3½ p.c. pm. |
| ON MANILA.— | |
| On demand | 2½ p.c. pm. |
| ON SINGAPORE.— | |
| On demand | 1½ p.c. pm. |
| ON BATAVIA.— | |
| On demand | 117½ |
| ON HAIPHONG.— | |
| On demand | 2½ p.c. pm. |
| ON SAIGON.— | |
| On demand | 2 p.c. pm. |
| ON BANGKOK.— | |
| On demand | 61 |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate | 10.12 |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael | 52.25 |
| BAR SILVER per oz. | 27½ |

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 29th March.—Since last report, freights coastwise have improved. Saigon to this, 32 cents per picul has been paid for small prompt steamer, and more tonnage is wanted at 31 cents per picul; to Philippines, 41 cents per picul is obtainable; to Java, no enquiry. Bangkok to Hongkong, 3½ and 35 cents per picul is offered. Java to Hongkong, 32 cents per picul wet sugar. Newchwang to Canton, one settlement is reported at 40 cents per picul. Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50; to Singapore, \$3 per ton firm. Sailing vessels.—The British bark *Largo Bay* has been chartered to load here for Callao, terms private.

The following are the settlements:—

Paul Revers—American ship, 1,614 tons, proceeds to Yokohama to load for New York.
Largo Bay—British bark, 1,178 tons, hence to Callao, private terms.
Apenrade—German steamer, 610 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul.
Daphne—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.60 per ton.
Sarnia—German steamer, 2,052 tons, Moji to Hongkong, part cargo (2,500 tons), \$2.50 per ton.
Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, hence to Iloilo and back, 52½ cents per picul.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,143 tons, Amoy to Singapore, \$7.75 each (passengers).
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Amoy to Singapore, \$8 each (passengers).
Holstein—German steamer, 985 tons, Hoibow to Singapore, \$8.25 each (passengers).
Marie Jensen—German steamer, 1,771 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24½ cents per picul.
Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 28 cents per picul.
Telemachus—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 28 cents per picul.
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.
Taltec—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 32 cents per picul.
Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 41 cents, two ports 44 cents per picul.
Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,510 tons, Saigon to two ports Philippines, 39 cents per picul.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 41 cents per picul.
Paz—Belgian steamer, 1,002 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 38 cents, two ports 38 cents per picul.
Dunav—Australian steamer, 1,004 tons, monthly, 3 months, at \$9,500 per month.
Peiyung—German steamer, 1,036 tons, monthly, 6 months, at \$8,750 per month.
Trym—Norwegian steamer, 710 tons, monthly, 8 months, at \$7,000 per month.
Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$7,750 per month.
Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$8,000 per month (re-charter).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

March—
 22, Poltava, Rus. battleship, from Cronstad.
 23, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
 23, Anping Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 23, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 23, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 23, Adamastor, Portuguese g-bt., from Macao.
 23, Chinkiang, British str., from Wuhu.
 23, Clain, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Hailoong, British str., from Pakhoi.
 23, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
 23, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Foochow.
 23, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 24, Annam, French str., from Shanghai.
 24, Aristeo, Austrian str., from Moji.
 24, Benclutha, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
 24, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 24, Hsieh Ho, German str., from Shanghai.
 24, Mazagon, British str., from Japan.
 24, Perla, British str., from Manila.
 24, Petrarch, German str., from Manila.
 24, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 24, Tategami Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 24, Amigo, German str., from Saigon.
 25, Loksang, British str., from Canton.
 25, Taishun, American str., from Canton.
 25, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
 25, Saturn, American str., from Guam.
 25, Wingsang, British str., from Swatow.
 25, Oceanien, French str., from Marseilles.
 25, Canton, British str., from London.
 25, Konigsberg, German str., from Hamburg.
 25, Petriana, British str., from Balik Papan.
 25, Trigonis, British str., from Pulo Beckone.
 25, Taileo, German str., from Saigon.
 26, Rosetta Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 26, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 26, Afridi, British str., from Glasgow.
 26, Hikosan Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 26, Canton, British str., from Canton.
 26, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 26, Haitan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 27, Sandakan, Ger. str., from Koh-si-chang.
 27, Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
 27, Awa Maru, Japanese str., from Singapore.
 27, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 27, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 27, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, M. Jebsen, German str., from Haiphong.
 27, Miike Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 27, Mongkut, German str., from Bangkok.
 27, Wosang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Penarth, British str., from Woosung.
 27, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 28, Foochow, British str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Plassy, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
 29, Sobraon, British str., from Bombay.
 29, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
 29, Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
 29, Saturn, U.S. collier, from Reef Pratas.
 March—
 23, Benclench, British str., for Nagasaki.
 23, Iris, British sch., for Freemantle.
 23, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Chefoo.
 23, Shantung, British str., for Hongay.
 23, Hong Wan I, British str., for Amoy.
 23, Cowrie, British str., for Singapore.
 23, Nuentung, German str., for Sydney.
 24, Endymion, British cruiser, for Shanghai.
 24, Albenga, German str., for Singapore.
 24, Asturia, German str., for Shanghai.
 24, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 24, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Clain, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Maidsuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 24, Peiyang, German str., for Chinkiang.
 25, Annam, French str., for Europe.
 25, Independent, German str., for Chefoo.
 25, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 25, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.
 26, Hsieh Ho, German str., for Canton.
 26, Benclutha, British str., for Canton.
 26, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 26, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 26, Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
 26, Decima, German str., for Swatow.
 26, Oceanien, French str., for Shanghai.
 26, Hoihow, French str., for Pakhoi.
 26, Taishun, American str., for Shanghai.
 26, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 26, Prosper, Norwegian str., for Amoy.
 26, Hoihow, British str., for Taiwanfoo.

26, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 26, S. Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Glenogle, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Siam, British str., for Singapore.
 26, Mazagon, British str., for Bombay.
 26, Loksang, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Hailoong, British str., for Haiphong.
 27, Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Canton, British str., for Ningpo.
 27, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Kutsang, British str., for Hongay.
 27, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 27, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 27, Pronto, German str., for Iloilo.
 27, Tsintan, German str., for Chefoo.
 27, Aristeo, Austrian str., for Moji.
 28, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
 28, Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 28, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 28, Konigsberg, German str., for Shanghai.
 28, Amigo, German str., for Amoy.
 28, Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Trigonis, British str., for Palembang.
 28, Wosang, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Queen Adelaide, British str., for Tacoma.
 29, Awa Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
 29, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Australia.
 29, Miike Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.
 29, Afridi, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 29, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mrs. Gore, Mrs. G. A. Zurn, Mrs. Hawthorne, Messrs. Hawthorne, Read, Stevens, Lezzajo, Carvalho, Laydence, E. Battle, Evanste and Battle.
 Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Lieut.-Comdr. F. M. Bostwick, U.S.N., Lieut.-Comdr. A. G. Winterhalter, Messrs. P. Navia, F. Carlos, F. Scott and Miss J. Arenas.
 Per *Annam*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Miss Ellis and child and Mrs. Jephura Abraham; from Nagasaki, Capt. Watson and son, Mr. Thomas Inglis, Capt. Cummis and son, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wills, Rev. Gaztelu, Capt. Beed, Mr. Batsés, Mrs. Evensburg, Messrs. Paul Legal and Wallbran Banstot.
 Per *Oceanien*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Ollia, Mr. Dorabjee and Rev. Fernandes Pereira; from Colombo, Mr. Gillet; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Bloch, Mr. R. R. Papphok, Mr. and Mrs. West and six children; from Saigon, Mrs. Lamort and Mr. Janovich; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell and two children, Messrs. Wintour, Lange, Ratard, Robert, Mrs. Pinardi and child, Messrs. Lazarus and J. Fontaino; from Singapore, Mr. Beschamps; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer, Miss Blumm; for Takou, from Saigon, Messrs. Wiet and Lagandit; for Kobe, from Bombay, Messrs. Botriewalla and P. Mahomee; from Singapore, Mr. Matsuda, Mrs. Tuine and Mr. F. Kawai; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Takeyro Songhi, Lemairo, Begny, Mrs. Ratard, Messrs. Cazalis, Roustan, R. Kahn, Mr. and Mrs. Otsuka and child and Mr. Miguel; from Bombay, Mrs. B. Muller; from Colombo, Mr. Benedix.
 Per *Canton*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. J. R. Maxwell Scott, Clow, C. S. Benning, W. F. Wittworth, Sub-Lieut. H. R. Tickell, Messrs. B. C. S. Pigott, N. Campbell, K. F. Fitzgibbon, A. B. St. John, R. B. Bodelly and N. C. Brokerton; from Malta, Mr. F. H. Batchellor; from Singapore, Mr. H. N. Ridley; for Shanghai, from Singapore, Mr. Geo. Stephen; for Yokohama, from London, Lady Napier, Mrs. Napier and two children.
 Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Japan, for Hongkong, Prinz H. Rows and Mr. Goldman; for Manila, Mr. J. Brown; for Briskane, Mr. H. Fell; for Melbourne, Mr. L. Wirt.
 Per *Awa Maru*, from Singapore, Messrs. J. Acheson, J. Ince, A. Thestlewaite, J. C. Manuel, C. B. Thomas, R. Kerr, T. Browne, Dr. Gustav Hoes, Mr. and Mrs. Karthalsaltes, Mrs. Cocker and child and Miss Woodford.
 Per *Foochow*, from Chinkiang, Mr. J. A. Henderson.
 Per *Plassy*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Dymond and four children, Messrs. Chamberlain, A. W. Newton, P. H. Umbsen,

Mrs. and Miss Jorge, Mr. H. Morris, Lieut.-Comdr. W. N. Little, Lieut.-Col. Pacey, Messrs. Abdooltyeb, H. F. Ostrander, Capt. Werther, Lieut. Colnitz and Mr. Hiscock; for Singapore, Lieut.-Col. Oldham; for Marseilles, Messrs. A. P. McEwen, C. W. Gordon and J. T. Smith; for London, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Brasier and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Burkill and infant, Mrs. E. C. Lowder, daughter and child, Miss Macdonald, Mrs. C. C. Clarke, Mr. W. C. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Wingrove and daughter, Mrs. Armstrong and child, Messrs. W. W. G. Ross, D. F. Black, Miss Black, Mrs. Ede and two children, Messrs. J. K. Tweed, H. Stell, E. A. Sargent, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Howell and son, Mr. W. Macdonald, Capt. R. N. Henderson, Lieut. Jellicoe, Mr. A. Cairncross, Messrs. J. Batty, Reid Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Birrell and three children, Mrs. J. Wilson and daughter, Miss M. Chick, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hope Gill and two children, Misses R. Angwin and Cooper; from Kobe, for Hongkong, Mr. H. L. Darrah; from Yokohama, for London, Messrs. J. W. S. Laird, E. C. M. Davis and A. B. Macdonald.

DEPARTED.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for Marseilles, &c., Mr. and Mrs. A. Rodger and five children, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. J. Holmes and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Purvis and two children, Mrs. Mather, Miss Daisy Mather, Miss Wilson, Mr. C. T. Robinson and infant, Messrs. J. Blackett, Karlson, Hogland, A. Berg, Mr. and Mrs. Shillington, Messrs. S. H. Tevenis, D. B. Thomas, Master D. B. Mendis, Mrs. H. Pinckney and infant, Messrs. H. N. Beanchesme, Georges Conty, P. W. Macgrath, Mocker, S. Hirayama, K. Hirayama, T. J. Blomdell, K. Saotome, A. W. Torkington, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Borff, Master Borff, Messrs. K. Shibakoka, T. Ito, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brown, Messrs. G. Takeda, Z. Yazumi, M. Kawashima, K. Itoyama, Capt. Howose, and Mr. Svendsen.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Japan, Miss A. Ito, Miss H. Ito, Messrs. K. Fujise, Geo. E. Clarke, Geo. E. Cavey, Mrs. R. Ogata and infant, Mr. MacNab, Rev. Murray, Mr. Prondfit, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Young, Miss Carlson, Messrs. Allan Cameron, Ganvoort, B. F. Hamersly, Joe Godbout, C. Sayers, C. Johnson, Mrs. Mathieson, Miss Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, Messrs. F. Messner, E. L. Farrer, E. Catlov, E. Y. Finckh, H. Chipman, Miss P. Awdry, Messrs. A. Beaver, G. R. Fauto, W. A. Tully, Miss A. Tully, Miss M. Tully, Mrs. E. Macdonald, Mr. W. A. Douglas, Mrs. Perry, Miss M. Perry, Miss T. Perry, Miss K. Perry, Mr. and Mrs. T. Murphy, Miss Barton, Messrs. H. W. Wickins, H. Simms, E. W. Cawte, Mr. and Mrs. Ishikawa, Messrs. M. Arias and Fernando Zomora.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Chs. Wessel, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. W., Messrs. Ferdinand Wenzel and Wm. L. Carson, Rev. S. B. Kurtz, Rev. E. A. Eby, Messrs. Fray Pulegrin, E. Hamamoto, Mrs. Koyoshi, Mrs. Tsuruno, Mrs. Chiyono, Mr. and Mrs. Kakutaro Nagai, and Mr. and Mrs. Harada.

Per *Annam*, from Hongkong, for Batavia, Messrs. J. H. Boychard and Posybylinski; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Andrews; for Marseilles, Mrs. Guernieur, Mr. Battle and son, Messrs. Delineau, F. Douglas Irvine, Lutz, W. Errington, A. Coelho, J. de Souza, A. Loureiro, J. S. de Carvalho, A. Chabes, J. Agostinho, A. Martins, F. da Silva Reis, R. Seine, M. B. Pereira and J. de Luramento.

Per *Oceanien*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Chevalier Z. Volpicelli, Mrs. Percy Scott, Messrs. Bassaus, G. A. Watkins, Dr. and Mrs. S. G. Evans, Mrs. Matheson, Miss Gray, Messrs. Bernhiem, Wagenmann, Boyerbach, C. O. de Mongaillard, H. Karmeling, Mr. and Mrs. A. Titelbaum, and Miss Mina; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Remedios, Rev. Relave and Mr. A. Moies; for Yokohama, Mr. Jabot.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Messrs. T. Gomes, H. Lim, J. Cohn, M. Carracon, E. Ignacio, M. M. Weeks, H. D. Corbusier, F. Zapirain, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Block, Messrs. Max Samuel, R. Klappholz, L. D. Boardman, A. Johnston and A. Ryan.

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